



## The Early Years Foundation Stage Staff Ratios

At Gosfield School we follow the guidance set out in the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage, published by the Department for Education in 2025.

The framework sets out guidance regarding staff pupil ratios as follows:

3.425. Staffing arrangements must meet the needs of all children and ensure their safety. Providers must ensure that children are adequately supervised, especially whilst eating, and decide how to use staff to ensure children's needs are met. Providers must inform parents and/or carers about how staff are organised, and, when relevant and practical, aim to involve them in these decisions

3.43 Children must usually be within sight and hearing of staff and always within sight or hearing. See paragraph 3.63 which applies when children are eating.

3.46. The ratio and qualification requirements apply to the total number of staff available to work directly with children. Exceptionally, and where the quality of care and safety and security of children is maintained, changes to the ratios may be made.

### Nursery

3.48 For children aged 2:

- there must be at least **one member of staff for every five children**
- At least one member of staff must hold an approved level 3 qualification, or have received approval to be included in the ratios at level 3 after attaining experience-based route status
- at least half of all other staff must hold an approved level 2 qualification

3.51 For children aged three and over in independent schools (including in nursery classes in free schools and academies) where a person with Qualified Teacher Status, Early Years Professional Status, Early Years Teacher Status, an instructor\*, or another suitably qualified overseas trained teacher, is working directly with children:

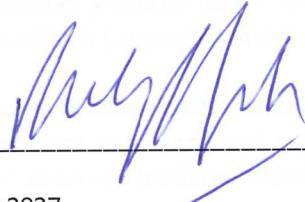
- For classes where the majority of children will reach the age of five or older within the school year, there must be at least one member of staff for every 30 children
- For all other classes there must be at least one other member of staff for every 13 children
- At least one other member of staff must hold an approved level 3 qualification, or have received approval to be included in the ratios at level 3 after attaining experience-based route status.

\*An instructor is a person at the school who provides education which consists of instruction in any art or skill, or in any subject or group of subjects, in circumstances where: (a) special qualifications or experience or both are required for such instruction; and (b) the person or body of persons responsible for the management of the school is satisfied as to the qualifications or experience (or both) of the person providing education.

3.52 For children aged three and over in independent schools (including in nursery classes in free schools and academies) where there is no person with Qualified Teacher Status, Early Years Professional Status, Early Years Teacher Status no instructor, and no suitably qualified overseas trained teacher, working directly with children:

- there must be at least one **member of staff for every eight children**
- At least one member of staff must hold an approved level 3 qualification, or have received approval to be included in the ratios at level 3 after attaining experience-based route status
- at least half of all other staff must hold an approved level 2 qualification

Principal's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

19.1.26

Date of next review: January 2027