

Smartkidz Play and Learn Ltd is committed meeting the requirements of the *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage 2024* (EYFS). EYFS applies to all children from birth through to the end of their reception year. More information about EYFS is available from the Department for Education's website.

As an out of school provider for school aged children, we are exempt within the EYFS from specific provision for children's learning and development and assessment requirements as other providers are required to do so. This is in recognition that children in this age group attend a primary education provider (usually school reception class) and we will work with the child's parents and other providers as set out in the order to ensure that children's needs are met (EYFS, 2024, page 6).

Smartkidz offers a child-led environment which follows the Playwork Principles and uses the PARS model of playwork practice. This means that for the majority of time when they are with us, children choose how to occupy their own time and are never forced to participate in any particular activity.

EYFS observations are done where needed, although this will NEVER interfere with the child's play.

The designated EYFS coordinator at the Club is responsible for:

- Identifying EYFS children when they join the Club and informing the other staff.
- Determining the primary EYFS provider (typically, the school) for each child.
- Being the key person for each EYFS child (if a large amount of EYFS children attend, then another keyworker can be assigned).
- Making sure staff get to know the EYFS children; what are their likes, dislikes, behaviors. This is to help them settle and help with any safeguarding concerns.
- Communicating with EYFS provider and parents, where necessary, to help support the club offers to EYFS children.
- Collating feedback from settling in questionnaire and action planning what to do next.

The management team will:

- Agree information sharing policies with the primary EYFS provider and gaining parental consent for this where necessary.
- Liaise with the primary EYFS provider to discuss what support the Club offers to EYFS children.

Our EYFS Delegated staff members are:

Girton DSL	Gemma Bateman
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Smartkidz provides a mix of adult-led and child initiated activities. Smartkidz follows the playwork principles, allowing children to choose how they occupy their time, and never forces them to participate in a given activity.

We recognise the four overarching principles of EYFS, and this is how they implemented within Smartkidz settings:

- **A Unique Child:** At Smartkidz, children make decisions about how they want to play, who they want to play with and how long to play for. This means that each child is able to follow their own interests in their own way and at their own pace and develop their own unique interests.

- **Positive Relationships:** Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships. We help children to develop positive relationships by enabling them to choose who they play with at any given time. Children are encouraged to develop social skills in negotiating and resolving their own difficulties whenever possible, with additional adult support when necessary.
- **Enabling Environments:** At Smartkidz we use environmental modification to ensure that children's play needs are consistently met. We regularly review our resources and practice to ensure that children have the space and materials to meet their own play needs.
- **Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates.** We believe that children learn best through their self-directed discoveries through play. We therefore use PARS practice to enable children to explore their own play ideas in their own way at their own pace.

How we help early years' children in their first year at Smartkidz and support the school with the EYFS children.

Prior to them attending school.

- A senior manager of staff will present at the school's parent's information evening for new families to discuss the running of the club and will be available to answer questions.

This policy was adopted by: Smartkidz Play and Learn	Date: August 2025
To be reviewed: August 2026	Signed: 

Written in accordance with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2025): Before/after school care and holiday provision [3.57] and Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements: Information for Parents and Carers [3.97] and The Learning and development requirements, Page 6