**Do your staff hold the correct qualifications?**

Find out if the qualifications held by you or staff working in an early years setting can be included in the staff to child ratio for the EYFS,  look it up:

[www.gov.uk/early-years-qualifications-finder](http://www.gov.uk/early-years-qualifications-finder)

Please note - it is essential that on the new ‘Early Years Educator’ level 3 certificate, that it also has the text ‘licence to practice’.  A requirement of the ‘licence to practice’ is having GCSE maths and English.

There have been some training organisations  allowing candidates to undertake the ‘Early Years Educator’ and gain the certificate without the GCSE maths and English – in these cases the certificate will not show ‘licence to practice’ and Ofsted may not consider this as a level 3 for ratios.  You are advised to check GCSE certificates at interview also.

Providers should also be aware that there are academic degrees that include ‘early years’ in their title that do not have sufficient  levels of assessment in practice for candidates to be counted in ratios as a qualified practitioner unless they also have a relevant level 3 qualification.  In these cases providers are advised to use the qualifications checker link above.  Specific enquires about qualifications may also be researched through Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education [www.qaa.ac.uk](http://www.qaa.ac.uk)