

## NUTBROWN REVIEW: TERMS OF REFERENCE

### Purpose

To build a stronger foundation years experience for all children by creating a high qualified early learning workforce of skilled, knowledgeable professional practitioners who are child and family centred as well as confident and ready to work with families. The review will seek to do this by considering how best to strengthen qualifications and career pathways, for young people new to the early education and childcare sector and those already employed there. This supports the recommendations set in Dame Clare Tickell's review of the Early Years Foundation Stage which highlighted the importance of having qualifications that are of a high standard and meets the needs of all learners.

### The Review will, in particular, consider:

- **Content:** what the content of early years and childcare qualifications and training courses should include to give the workforce the appropriate skills, knowledge and experience to work in the foundation stage. In view of training particularly looking at:
  - Training needs linked to EYFS response: To review content of early years training in view of requirements for delivery of 21/2 year progress check and targeted training aimed at strengthening practitioners' confidence around interaction with parents and how practitioners can help to support them confidently to talk with their children;
- **Coherence and inclusivity:** how best to rationalise and develop a suite of qualifications which is coherent, meets the needs of learners (at all levels and stages of their childcare and early learning career) and promotes diversity, professionalism and motivation in the workforce.
- **Clear career pathways:** how best to improve the progression structure for qualifications, including linking these to leadership qualifications, and ensuring that these and career pathways promote progression in the labour market, within the sector and through higher level education and training routes.
- **Standards:** how to ensure that qualifications and training are of a consistently high standard, tested for rigour and quality and delivered in a way that meets the needs of the children, families, practitioners in early years settings and employers in the sector.
- **Status:** How the work of the Review will contribute towards raising the overall status of early education and childcare. Exploring options for helping newer qualifications acquire the equivalent standard, status and currency of contemporary qualifications like the NNEB which focused on practical application based on theoretical understanding and reflective practice.

The Review will make recommendations to the Minister of State for Children and Families, and to other authorities as appropriate.

*Supporting evidence*

This Review will take account of wider cross Government developments in this area, including: the Wolf Review, the Tickell Review; Ofqual's approach to accrediting awarding bodies rather than qualifications; and the role of Sector Skills Councils.