

Membership Criteria (updated 2015)

For an organisation to become part of the Early Childhood Forum it must meet the following criteria.

- Member organisations of ECF must work wholly or in part for children from pre-birth to seven and have a policy, practice or research function.
- Member organisations are ones that represent specific aspects/issues/concerns of the early childhood sector nationally.
- Member organisations should have a policy for equality and anti-discriminatory practice.
- All member representatives must represent the full views of their organisation and agree to report back to the organisation which they represent on the Forum.
- Every member organisation must empower their representative to contribute fully to the work of the Forum and when requested and whenever possible, respond to relevant documents.
- In order to remain in membership of ECF, organisations must normally be represented at least once out of three meetings during the calendar year.
- If a substitute member is to attend a meeting the Chair must be notified in advance.

Observer status is offered to Government department and non-departmental public bodies. Observers are invited to attend ECF meetings to update members on current policy and activities and provide a two-way dialogue. They have no voting rights and cannot hold Chair or Steering Group posts.