

EY BRIEFING JAN17

*EYFS STATEMENT FOR PARENTS HANDBOOK, AND TO PUT ON NOTICE BOARD OR IN PARENT INFORMATION FILE.*

*It has come to my attention that you have a duty to inform your parents about the EYFS and Exemptions. It would be best to include this in your parent handbook once they have signed up for the kindergarten.*

### **THE STATUTORY EYFS AND EXEMPTIONS**

The Statutory **Early Years Foundation Stage** (EYFS) Birth – 5 years, applies to all settings including ours. It sets out both learning and development requirements and safeguarding and welfare requirements for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday. You can find out more about the EYFS in the *Guide to the EYFS in Steiner Kindergartens* which you will find in your kindergarten or on <http://www.steinerwaldorf.org>. You can also find a *parent's guide to the EYFS* on the government website <http://www.foundationyears.org.uk>

Because there are areas which conflict with the Steiner Waldorf early childhood principles and practice, we have received some 'Exemptions and Modifications' to the EYFS Learning and Development requirements and Assessment regulations under the 'Established Principles' route. These are mostly to do with the introduction and in some cases formal teaching of reading, writing, mathematics and use of IT/media and electronic gadgetry. There is no exemption from the safeguarding and welfare requirements. (See list of *Exemptions and Modifications* in the kindergarten).