



## **Child Observations**

### **Introduction:**

Observations form a vital insight into children's individual learning and development. They help staff to enhance and develop the children's learning through their play.

All Nursery Staff undertake a range of observations on the children. Using these observations and the Early Years Foundation Stage, the children's Key Person builds up a picture of each individual child's stage of development. By using this information and the information gained through verbal and written communication with the children's parents/carers, staff are able to enhance the children's individual learning and the whole nursery learning environment.

### **Procedures:**

#### **Observations:**

- Observations are taken in an unobtrusive manner, allowing the child to continue with their play uninterrupted.
- Photographs, short videos and audio recordings are an important part of child observations as they show the range of play undertaken, which are difficult to describe on paper. These are also used to show parents/carers and Ofsted inspectors what happens during the nursery day.
- The nursery may use a video camera to record events for parents' evenings and as a staff training tool.
- Group interaction is a part of the children's learning process and therefore individual children's learning journeys may contain group photographs and written observations.

#### **Parents/Carers:**

- Parents/carers are asked to fill in a consent form allowing staff and students to carry out written and photographic observations.