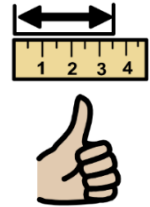


# Template

0 – 25 Specialist Teaching And Support Service

## How to observe to inform assessments - Early Years Developmental Journal.



### Why?

- This is to support practitioners to observe and assess children using the Early Years Developmental Journal.
- This is beneficial because accurate assessments can inform planning and measure progress.
- The Early Years Developmental Journal is a useful tool because it is used by the SEN Team and links to the Bradford Matrix of Need 'Early Years SEN Progress Grid' [EY SEN Progress Grid 181121RD.pdf \(bradford.gov.uk\)](#).

### You will need:

- Time to closely observe the child.
- A copy of the Early Years Developmental Journal.
- Pages 2 & 3 of this document printed out for recording notes.
- Time with the SENCo or colleagues to moderate judgements.

### How?

- Observe the child in different contexts e.g. lunch time, outdoor play, indoors in the areas of provision, carpet time. Make notes to capture their achievements, emerging skills and barriers.
- The Early Years Developmental Journal is split into four areas:
  - Personal, Social and Emotional
  - Communication
  - Physical
  - Thinking
- Look at the statements on the Early Years Developmental Journal. For each of the four areas decide which step is the 'best fit'.
- Moderate the assessment judgements with the SENCo or colleagues.



# Template

## 0 – 25 Specialist Teaching And Support Service

### What to observe:

#### **Social, Emotional and Mental Health**

- presentation e.g. happy, social, quiet
- awareness of others
- making relationships with adults/peers
- response to routine
- feelings and behaviour - what do the behaviours look like?
- feelings and behaviour - what calms the child down? self- regulation/mutual regulation

#### **Observation Notes:**

#### **Communication and Interaction**

- attention & listening
- speech sounds
- receptive and expressive language
- levels of social interaction and communication
- non-verbal communication (e.g. looking towards adults, taking adults to desirables, vocalisations, gestures such as pointing)

#### **Observation Notes:**



# Template

## 0 – 25 Specialist Teaching And Support Service

### Physical & Sensory

- gross motor skills and mobility
- fine motor skills
- vision & hearing
- sensory needs
- eating and drinking
- toileting & dressing
- safety

### Observation Notes:

### Cognition and Learning / Thinking

- involvement in and accessing **self- directed** play / learning
- involvement in and accessing **adult- directed** play / learning
- how the child is playing with peers e.g. alongside others, to and fro interactions
- areas of provision accessed and specific interests
- developmental types of play the child is engaged in e.g. exploratory, imaginative
- characteristics of learning e.g. problem solving
- cognitive interests and ability – numbers / colours / shapes / letters / looking at a book

### Observation Notes:



# Template

## 0 – 25 Specialist Teaching And Support Service

### Things to note:

This is part of the 'Early Years Developmental Journal Tool Kit':

- Help Sheet – How to use the Early Years Developmental Journal.
- [Template - How to observe to inform assessments - Early Years Developmental Journal.](#)
- Assessment – Early Years Developmental Journal (Step per Page)