



KNOWLEDGE – EQUALITY – DETERMINATION – ACHIEVEMENT

Nursery Observations and Assessment Policy

Policy Adopted for:	Oakwood Primary Academy
Date of this Policy:	November 2024
To be reviewed:	November 2025

Aims of the Policy

- To know each child's level of development to ensure that planning meets the diverse needs of all the children
- To fully support learning and development
- To celebrate progress in learning and development
- To value the contributions of and work in partnership with parents.

Principles

The principles of the Early Years Foundation Stage Guidance emphasise the importance of observation and assessment:

'In their interactions with children, practitioners should respond to their own day to-day observations about children's progress and observations that parents and carers share'
Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage

Objectives

- To develop good relationships between a child's parents/carers and their Key Worker in the setting in order to ensure that information about the child is Shared effectively.
- To ensure that learning is a shared process – children learn most effectively when, with the support of a knowledgeable and trusted adult, they are actively involved and interested.
- To ensure that all children feel included, secure and valued.
- To make sure that we build on what children already know and can do.
- To develop the expertise of practitioners so that they know how to respond effectively to the observations they make.

PROCEDURES

Children aged 0-5 years

Parental Liaison

Information is gathered from parents before their child starts at the Nursery and in an ongoing way throughout a child's time in the Nursery. Observations made by practitioners are shared with the parents on tapestry.

Information is gathered regarding the child's interests, likes and dislikes This is done by a form '**ALL ABOUT ME**' about me which is filled in by parents/carers before the child starts Nursery. This supports Practitioners in ensuring a smooth transition into the Nursery and helps the child to feel that s/he is known to those caring for her/him.

- Parental Review Meetings

Parents will be invited into the Nursery to talk with their child's Key Worker about the progress made by their child and to celebrate their achievements.

2. Ongoing Observations

This will be the most productive form of information gathering. All practitioners are responsible for recording on tapestry the significant steps forward taken by children in their learning and development.

Assessment

Each term, assessments are entered into Arbor which enables us to track the progress of individuals. The system looks at each area of learning within the Early Years Foundation Stage, so that progress can be identified in any one area.

2 year olds;

These observations and assessments are then used to provide appropriately differentiated learning experiences or used in formal assessment of SEN to provide extra support for individual children, if necessary.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The staff will:

- Monitor the range and quality of observations made.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of planning in light of observations made.
- Support practitioners in the implementation of this policy through regular training and staff development meetings.
- Prioritise time for observations of children in order to monitor, support and assess their learning.
- Ensure that all practitioners within their team are familiar with this policy and the procedures outlined in it.
- Management will support practitioners in making ongoing and planned observations.
- Take account of the needs, interests and knowledge of all children when planning.
- Ensure that parents/carers have opportunities to be actively involved in the observation and assessment process.
- Ensure adequate time/opportunity is allowed within planning for observation and assessment.

Dissemination

This policy is available for all parents, staff and prospective parents.