

Early Years Matter Case Study

Documenting children's progress

Children's centre staff were reluctant to start 'Learning Journeys' for children in their groups – they could not see the value given the amount of time and effort that would be needed. The team got together to explore why documenting children's learning is valuable.

Why Document and Reflect

Practitioners document and reflect on learning in order to discover, value and share the development of children, practice and provision.

To discover:- *What children can do*

Discovering what children can do builds a complete picture of interests, feelings and abilities, develops awareness of how and what each child learns and enables next steps in learning to be planned for appropriately.

What practitioners can do

Discovering what practitioners can do encourages a complete picture of practice and provision, develops transparency and integrity and enables next steps in professional and setting development to be planned for appropriately.

To value:- *What children can do*

Valuing what children can do encourages a pro-active, positive attitude to learning, motivates high quality responses and promotes self-esteem.

What practitioners can do

Valuing what practitioners do encourages a pro-active, positive attitude to professional development, motivates high quality practice and provision and promotes professional confidence.

To share:- *What children can do*

Sharing what children can do engages children, practitioners, parents and the wider community in the learning process and invites further learning and involvement between interested parties.

What practitioners can do

Sharing what practitioners can do engages children, practitioners, parents and the wider community in the practice and provision of the setting and invites further learning and involvement between interested parties.

Next steps: At the next meeting the team want to include parents in the discussion and find out why they value the 'Learning Journeys' and to share ideas on how they might develop them in the future. They are exploring ideas of using posters, movie maker and compact discs so that information can be shared and presented.