

Characteristics of Effective Learning

We use these statements in the Early Years to assess *how* children learn as well as what they learn. These characteristics underpin children's learning and we use these statements in conjunction with the EYFS curriculum. This all supports our assessments of the children's learning and understanding.

<p>Playing and Exploring engagement</p>	<p>Finding out and exploring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Showing curiosity about objects, events and people • Using senses to explore the world around them • Engaging in open-ended activity • Showing particular interests <p>Playing with what they know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pretending objects are things from their experience • Representing their experiences in play • Taking on a role in their play • Acting out experiences with other people <p>Being willing to 'have a go'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiating activities & Seeking challenge • Showing a 'can do' attitude • Taking a risk, engaging in new experiences, and learning by trial and error
<p>Active Learning motivation</p>	<p>Being involved and concentrating</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining focus on their activity for a period of time • Showing high levels of energy, fascination • Not easily distracted • Paying attention to details <p>Keeping on trying</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persisting with activity when challenges occur • Showing a belief that more effort or a different approach will pay off • Bouncing back after difficulties <p>Enjoying achieving what they set out to do</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Showing satisfaction in meeting their own goals • Being proud of how they accomplished something – not just the end result • Enjoying meeting challenges for their own sake rather than external rewards or praise
<p>Creating and Thinking Critically thinking</p>	<p>Having their own ideas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thinking of ideas • Finding ways to solve problems • Finding new ways to do things <p>Making links</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making links and noticing patterns in their experience • Making predictions & Testing their ideas • Developing ideas of grouping, sequences, cause and effect <p>Choosing ways to do things</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning, making decisions about how to approach a task, solve a problem and reach a goal • Checking how well their activities are going & Changing strategy as needed • Reviewing how well the approach worked