

## **What is a Learning Diary?**

Learning diaries are an on-going record of children's experiences, interests, achievements and development throughout their time spent at our nursery. Learning diaries are used throughout the Under 5's provision at Cleve House School and form an essential bridge between home and nursery.

Each child has an individual learning diary and there is a whole nursery learning diary for you to take a look at as well.

### **What can go into the Learning Diary?**

**Jottings** – these are snap shots of significant moments that have been observed either at nursery or at home and may be contributed by all nursery staff, parents, grandparents and other who are in contact with your child.

**Focussed observations/learning stories** – are detailed observations that are linked to the Early Years Foundation Stage.

**Photographs and significant examples of children's work** – linked to the Early Years Foundation stage. Parents and children are encouraged to add any photographs from home.

The diaries are available for you to look at anytime and they are sent home at the end of each term for you to share together. We warmly welcome your ongoing contributions;-

**'Wow' cards** are for you to note down any special achievements and moments that you would like to share with us.

**'P.L.O.D' cards** are for you to note down anything that your child is particularly interested in. These give us ideas for possible lines of development and enable us to plan for learning and next steps.

Working with you will help us identify and plan for your child's individual interests and learning.

At some point after your child has turned two the key person will give a written summary of how your child is progressing against the 3 prime areas of learning. This is called the progress check at age 2.

The children's progress will be tracked on the 'Development Matters' paperwork at the end of each term then next steps will be identified and shared with you.

More information regarding the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS) and the development stages for children as they grow from birth the five years can be found at [www.foundationyears.org.uk](http://www.foundationyears.org.uk). 'Development Matters' is the non-statutory guidance material that supports practitioners in implementing the statutory requirements of the EYFS.

## **Who does the Learning Diary belong to?**

First and foremost the diary belongs to your child and is always accessible for them to look at, add to and to enjoy. The diary also belongs to you as the parent/carer so please make contributions and enjoy looking through it with your child. Your child's key person will work hard to ensure it reflects your child's progress and supports the on-going dialogue between home and nursery.

As well as having access to the learning diaries that track your child's progress please feel free to speak to your child's key person as often as possible about what your child has been doing, what they have enjoyed and what you can do at home.