Cohort Tracking

Knowing the differences

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10 March 2017
Ongoing assessment (also known as formative assessment) is an integral part of the learning and development process. It involves practitioners observing children to understand their level of achievement, interests and learning styles, and to then shape learning experiences for each child reflecting those observations. 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.
The Early Years inspection handbook

Good Grade descriptor – Leadership & Management

Monitoring ensures that individual children or groups of children who have identified needs are targeted and appropriate interventions are secured so that children receive the support they need, including through effective partnerships with external agencies and other providers.
Diminishing Difference
What is a cohort tracker?

- Tracking tools
- All 7 areas of learning
- Completed regularly
- Charts child’s development
- No one way
Characteristics of ‘Groups’

- Boys & Girls
- SEND
- LAC
- Disadvantaged children
- EAL / new arrivals
- Ethnicity
Why track cohorts of children?

- Highlights learning needs – groups and individuals
- Analysis, Analysis, Analysis!
- Identifies next steps
- Informs planning
- Information for parents
- Targets teaching and learning
- Supports good progress
Accurate assessment

- Partnerships
- Communication
- Parents
- Professional respect
- Trust
Focus of assessment

Early Childhood Learning & Assessment

Diagnostic
Focus on early identification of learning difficulties so remedial help can be provided

Summative
Overall achievement shared in a systemic way

Formative
Focus on positive achievements recognised & reinforcement of learning 'next steps' planned

Evaluative
Assessing with purpose particular aspects of work
Tracking groups

Top tips

- Use regular observations to support tracking
- Involve parent and include their comments
- Add next steps
- Use tracker to identify strengths and weaknesses
- Use next steps to inform planning
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