

St Stephens Community Academy



An Daras
Multi Academy Trust



EYFS Learning Journal Statement

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Position: EYFS Leader

Date: September 2015



EYFS Learning Journal Statement

Rationale and Aims

The purpose of this statement is to set out a whole school approach to the purpose and presentation of our schools Learning Journals. It provides guidance for all staff, new and experienced and it will underpin the continued development of the academy as a learning community.

Our vision statement says **“St Stephens Community Academy is a caring place where everyone feels valued, motivated and supported so all can move together towards a bright, positive and successful future.”**

We have decided, as a school, through a range of discussions, that our Learning Journals should be a reflection of the progress made by the individual child over time not just a collection of evidence to support assessment.

Guidelines for the completion of Learning Journals

Learning Journals should contain:

- A range of evidence to reflect all seven curriculum areas as well as the Characteristics of Learning linked to Development Matters (2012) statements as appropriate.
- Parent comments and contributions are encouraged, including their views on attainment at key points throughout the year. These are collected via 'notes from home', 'wow notes' and conversations with parents at parent meetings throughout the year.
- Children's own comments about their learning to ensure they have ownership of their learning journal.
- Special certificates, evidence of key moments and successes.
- Photos, incidental, short and long observations made by a range of adults working with the child in both adult directed learning and through child initiated play.

Points to remember:

- All observations should be dated and stick in chronological order.
- Presentation is very important therefore learning should be trimmed neatly, handwriting should be clear, double check spelling and grammar.
- Photos need to tell a story, sometimes, it is best to have a sequence of photos as these show more than an individual photo.
- All photos need annotation or an observation linked to them. Sometimes photos can contain images of more than one child as this shows children's social interactions and development however other children visible in the photo will not be named as part of our commitment to child protection.
- One long observation to be completed every term.
- Short observations and 'sticky note' comments to be linked to the Development Matters assessment criteria. Children's actual spoken words to be written in inverted commas word for word.