



Birth to Five Service Foundation Stage Profile Newsletter

Last year there were some very good examples of excellent practice in observation and assessment. During moderation we scanned a number of these and are currently collating them to develop exemplification materials which will hopefully be available to view on our website this year.

There were some key points from moderation that we would like to share;

- ◇ There are now very few schools using PIPs as a form of assessment, as most have moved to using the eprofile
- ◇ There were a number of practitioners who had not attended profile training but were being asked to represent their school for FSP moderation- **If you are new to the foundation stage please book onto the Profile Training course as soon as possible.**
- ◇ Some practitioners did not have access to the FSP Handbook and therefore had not referred to the exemplification materials within this.- **Please ensure that you read the examples in the handbook clearly, and have a good understanding of expectations for all parts of the scale point.**
- ◇ Some practitioners are awarding higher scale points with only one piece of evidence shown at moderation-it is important, (especially for higher scales), that practitioners provide a broad range of evidence to show that the child is working consistently at that level.

Issue 3

Autumn Term 1
2007

Special points of interest:

- ☺Moderation 2007.
- ☺Moderation 2008.
- ☺National Guidance

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Changes to the Foundation Stage Profile 2007-08

- The following changes have occurred to the Foundation Stage Profile;

The new scale points are as follows:

LSL 5 "Hears and says sounds in words"

LSL 6 "Blends sounds in words"

- ◇ You can download the eProfile with it's updated changes from NetLinc (search for Eprofile) or going onto the Suffolk website. The updated booklets and handbook will be available to download at the end of August from QCA.

The Focus Of Moderation in 2008:



Problem-solving, Reasoning and Numeracy

In 2008 we will be moderating;

- Problem-Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy (3 scales)
- Physical Development (1 Scale)

We will once again be looking for **a good range of quality evidence** for these areas in particular.

Once again you will be asked to select **three children** representative of the Foundation stage in your school; (a higher, middle and lower attainer).



Physical Development

The Format of Moderation in 2008:

- We will be continuing to follow the suggested model for moderation in 2008 25% of schools to be individually moderated and 75% of schools to be cluster moderated.
- The moderation will once again be spread over three terms; **Spring terms 1 & 2, and Summer term 1**
- Both Cluster moderation and individual moderation will be spread throughout the county, and will cover maintained schools, special schools, private schools and any non-maintained settings who have children of the appropriate age.
- Your school will be notified by letter in 2008 whether you will be part of a cluster moderation or have an individual moderation visit.

**75% cluster
moderation & 25%
individual moderation
to continue.**

Some questions about moderation...

What is the purpose of moderation?

The purpose of moderation is to promote accurate & consistent judgements.

Judgements are agreed through professional dialogue during the moderation meeting.

What is the moderators role?

During visits to settings and through cluster meetings, the moderator will:

- ◇ Give you guidance on- interpreting the scale points, applying the criteria to evidence, gathering observations, documenting the judgements, how your current assessments may need to be revised to achieve accurate & consistent judgements;
- ◇ Support accurate & consistent judgements by discussing your assessments with you;
- ◇ Discuss your school's processes for promoting accurate and consistent judgements across the setting e.g. *in-house moderation*;
- ◇ Answer your questions.

How will I know about cluster meetings, when they happen and who should attend?

Your Headteacher will receive a letter asking him/her to delegate one reception teacher to attend the cluster meeting on specific dates during Summer Term 1 and return this to the EYSS.

Look out for the National Guidance Materials on 'Tricky Scale Points' coming to your schools!

What do I need to bring to the cluster meeting?

The following: individual profiles that are in progress, (manual or eprofile printouts), or your school's chosen way to record assessments against the scale points, and the evidence you have collected to make these judgements.

You should be prepared to discuss your assessments with the moderator and a small group of colleagues. At the end of the meeting the teacher will receive a copy of the completed form and will need to take one back to the Headteacher.

What will happen during a moderation visit?

If your school is going to receive an individual moderation visit you will receive a letter explaining this. Your Headteacher will also receive a phone call from the moderator to discuss and arrange a specific date and time. There will be a half day visit during which the moderator will observe 3 children identified by the teacher/s; one from each class in a 3 form entry school or FS unit. They will gather observations and use these to support the discussion. After the observation there will be a discussion with teachers on the assessments and moderator's observations, the process that your school has in place for arriving at the judgements, *i.e. how the assessments are gathered, who contributes to these, the range of evidence collected, and your school's strategies for achieving accurate & consistent judgements.* Answering your questions about scale points that are proving difficult to assess. At the end of the visit a form will be completed a copy of which will be given to the teacher, and also the Headteacher.

After moderation

- ◇ *Please ensure that you follow up on any identified action points highlighted from moderation*
- ◇ *Please ensure that the final judgements submitted at the end of June are accurate in the light of your discussion during moderation.*

Available Training. Further information can be found in the CfBT Courses booklet or website, or on the EYSS Website.

- ◇ 'Foundation Stage profile Training' course no 026307 date- 02/10/07, at Woodhall Spa The Golf Hotel
- ◇ 'Building Children's Profiles-Effective practice in Observation and assessment' course no 025207 (2 days) date-5/11/07 & 26/11/07, at Sleaford, Lincolnshire Oak Hotel

If you would like to attend any of these courses please ring Inset & Support on 01522 553311



Guidance Document For Next Year

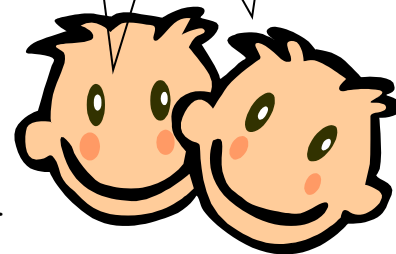
During the last academic year we sent out guidance materials for communication language and literacy and creative develop.

Once again we had a great deal of positive feedback from schools, we would like to once again thank the members of the working party.

Due to this feedback we felt it would be useful to produce a similar support material for the forthcoming areas of learning that will be focused on for moderation. There will the be a whole set ; one for each area of learning.

We hope that once again this will be useful, so look out for the publication early next academic year!

If for some reason you do not get a copy of the guidance materials, it will also be available to download on our website.



Any ideas of what you would like in the guidance please let us know...
Email

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Issue 3

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The Birth to Five Service work with all schools and settings that deliver the Foundation Stage Curriculum.

We provide training and individual support to Foundation Stage practitioners in schools and settings on an inverse proportion to need basis.

We co-ordinate and run the moderation for the FS Profile.

Performance management co-ordinate all data collection, and report this to schools.

Useful websites linked to assessment:

www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/eyss

www.standards.dfes.gov.uk www.aaia.org.uk

www.naa.org.uk

www.foundation-stage.info

www.qca.org.uk

www.surestart.org.uk

We would love to hear from you!

If you have any good ideas, comments or feedback you would like to give us please send your emails to the address below or letters to the above address.
Some letters or good ideas may be published!!!

Last Notices.

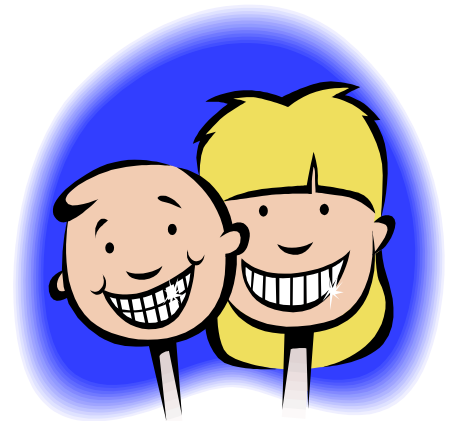
*PLEASE REMEMBER...

*Each maintained school is allocated a Standards Fund at the beginning of each year.(Refer to the FSP Handbook p

*Each year an amount of money within this should be set aside to cover the costs of FS Profile moderation.

*It is the Headteacher and/or senior management team's responsibility to ensure that this is budgeted for.

*This will then cover the supply costs for attending cluster meetings, and meeting the moderator during individual moderation.



For further information or queries regarding moderation please contact
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* Foundation Stage Profile evidence will be moderated every year and is a national requirement.