

How to do less documentation

DO

DON'T

Reflect on your current practices: why do you document? who is it for? is it used for the planning cycle and assessment?

Keep doing what you have always done, or do what another service does, as what may work for them might not suit you.

Ensure your documentation is meaningful. It should be written holistically and focusing on the learning.

Write words on a page that mean nothing, are not planned from, and don't demonstrate learning

Research the requirements from the regulations, national law, national quality standard and learning framework

Believe things that other people tell you because there are a lot of myths out there that increase workloads and are not requirements

Think about different ways to reuse documentation so things are not written twice e.g. photocopying/printing and putting in displays with projects or artwork

Write the same information in multiple different places, instead cut and paste, copy, photograph displays and file etc.

Work on building relationships so documentation is more reflective of children's true abilities and skills

Take endless photos, do lots of supervision and large group experiences that limit engagement with children and real understanding of individual learning

