

What's it all about?

Definition

Observations are a key part of the planning cycle that involves documenting and understanding the children in your service. They help educators understand the interests and needs of the children and support planning considerations to help children make progress and achieve new learning opportunities through their interests.

What it is not

Observations are not just examples of what the children have been doing to tick a box for compliance, nor are they a one size fits all document based on everyone doing the same planned activities.




Observations



NQF 

NQS -
1.1.2 - Child-centred
1.3.1 - Planning cycle
Learning
Framework -
Practice -
Assessment and
evaluation for
learning,
development and
wellbeing
Reg - 74

How to achieve it

-  Observations should be made when something stands out to educators as important to that child, this could be based on a new skills, a great idea, a challenge they have overcome or progress towards a parent goal.
-  Observations should have some evidence with them to support the assessment of learning such as something the child said, did, or made. This does not need to be a photo of the child doing the experience, as often this interrupts the play.
-  Whether or not the parents read them, observations help educators support children's learning by planning around their interests and needs and this is why they are important.