

Adult – child interaction observation checklist

- This checklist must be used alongside the Early Years Outcomes and Development Matters in the Early Years Foundation Stage
- The observation can be shared with colleagues to develop your practice together
- The checklist can be used throughout the setting, consider the range of ages and stages of all the children
- Consider the learning styles of boys and girls
- It will support practitioner’s to identify individual strengths and areas where interactions can be developed further
- It will support you in providing an environment that promotes the Characteristics of Effective Learning
- Interactions should take place in both adult-led and child-led activities
- Adult child interactions should be a two way conversation.

Date: _____

Did you.....	Yes/no	Comments/what can we do next?
Wait for the child to talk/respond? (Remember if the child does not talk, your role is to commentate on their play)		
Listen to what the child said or observe their response? (Use the child’s name first when responding)		
Talk about what the child was/is doing using short simple sentences?		
Adapt your play style to suit the child? For example, energetic or gentle according to the child’s mood.		

Did you.....	Yes/no	Comments/what can we do next?
Make your voice sound interesting?		
Sit where the child could see your face?		
Establish good eye contact?		
Give specific encouragement? You can use "ways to say well done"		
Use specific language to extend the child's thinking? (Explaining the meaning of unfamiliar words)		
Use the four comments to one question rule?		
Encourage children to talk to each other?		

Useful tools to use: Five fingers rule
Ways to say well done