



Standards  
& Testing  
Agency

Standards and Testing Agency  
Earlsdon Park  
53 – 55 The Butts  
Coventry  
CV1 3BH

Tel: 0370 000 2288

Email: [TA.moderation@education.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:TA.moderation@education.gsi.gov.uk)

Julia Hawkes  
julia.hawkes@gloucestershire.gov.uk

26<sup>th</sup> May 2015

Dear Ms Hawkes

### **2015 Early years foundation stage - STA external moderation visit**

Thank you for your help in supporting the 2015 external moderation visit to Gloucestershire local authority by our Standards and Testing Agency (STA) representative, Gail Gammage. I am writing to provide an outline of the findings.

From the information provided through your 2015 planning form and the feedback received from the STA representative, a clear picture has been obtained of the local authority early years foundation stage profile (EYFSP) procedures and practices.

**Gloucestershire LA has met STA requirements as outlined within the *EYFSP 2015 assessments and reporting arrangements* and the *EYFS profile handbook*.**

The main strengths (in addition to the statutory requirements) identified were:

- Details of the moderation process are communicated to all relevant stakeholders in the autumn term. The plan reflects evaluations from stakeholders in reference to the previous cycle.
- The LA induction process for new moderators is comprehensive and allows time for shadow visits. The LA has conducted quality assurance visits together with moderators to ensure consistency across the team.
- A comprehensive range of triggers supported by LA data outcomes are used to identify moderation visits and support to settings in addition to the four year cycle.
- Head teachers, governors and year 1 teachers have opportunities to participate in elements of the moderation visits.
- The agreement trialling element of moderation training focuses on practitioner's own evidence, which has informed their judgements.

- Additional training is provided, specific to the context and needs of the LA in response to the data base information.
- Quality assurance of data reflects an understanding of local circumstances. The process is evaluated and developed each year, and outcomes are used to determine training for all school and settings.

During this visit it was observed that all statutory requirements are met and there are no further actions for you to address.

If you would like to discuss these findings in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact me at [TA.moderation@education.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:TA.moderation@education.gsi.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John McRoberts', written in a cursive style.

**Mr John McRoberts**  
**Senior Teacher Assessment and Maladministration Manager**

Standards and Testing Agency  
Department for Education