

Rarely engages in activities

Active learning is a key part of the EYFS and supports children to become motivated, confident, and independent learners. Through continuous provision, children can explore, investigate, and follow their own interests. Practitioners play an important role in observing children's engagement and providing opportunities that motivate them to participate in play and learning.

Practitioners can support children by:

Supporting Play

- Supporting children to engage in activities through modelling and scaffolding, then gradually stepping back to encourage independent play.
- Using information from 'All About Me' profiles, observations, and discussions with parents to identify children's interests and motivators.
- Regularly reviewing and updating children's profiles to ensure activities remain engaging and relevant.

Using a Total Communication Approach

- Providing opportunities for children to make choices, for example through choice boards, objects, photographs, or symbols.
- Using clear language and key word instructions that match the child's level of understanding.
- Using visual supports such as sand timers, visual timetables and 'first, then' boards, to help children understand routines and expectations.
- Ensuring practitioners have the knowledge and skills to support communication through a Total Communication approach.

Creating an Enabling Environment

- Providing developmentally appropriate activities that meet children's individual needs and interests.
- Ensuring children can independently access resources and activities.
- Organising the environment to support engagement, exploration, and learning.
- Offering a balance of indoor and outdoor learning opportunities.
- Considering whether the environment is appropriately stimulating and adapting it where needed.
- Providing resources that reflect and support the languages, cultures, and backgrounds of all children, including those who speak more than one language.

Activities, Ideas and Strategies:

- Follow the child's interests and join in their play.
- Introduce new resources linked to children's favourite activities.
- Use visual choice boards to help children select activities.
- Offer short, motivating activities and gradually extend engagement.
- Celebrate and praise participation, effort, and achievement.
- Create inviting play spaces that encourage exploration and curiosity.
- Use peer role models to encourage involvement in activities.