**Observing children Policy**

All children have their own thoughts and feelings and it is important that we listen to find these out as it is an integral part of helping children to develop. Listening to children can be done in many ways, playing and conversing with children and observing in both solitary and group play. It is important that we observe a child particularly when they are participating in a self-chosen activity as this gives us more of an insight to who they are.

We make use of these findings through assessing and evaluating in accordance with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). We aim to carry out frequent observations on your child and this information will be available in your child’s Tapestry account to illustrate and monitor their learning and development with us. You can also add your own pictures and observations if you wish.

You will be asked to sign a permission slip which will allow the staff to observe your child and make written recordings. These findings will then be used in your child’s planning sheets to further their learning and development. All this information is held on your child’s online Tapestry account which you are notified each time something is added. Your child’s school will be interested in viewing this to see your child’s learning journey and what level they are currently working at. If your child’s new school is not yet using Tapestry, then we can download and send them a copy.

Please note we work in accordance with **The General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) 2018** and always seek permission from parents before holding this information. We make sure parents know what info we have and how we are using it. We will only ever share your child’s personal information, without your permission, if we feel they are at risk and we need to speak to the police or Children’s Services. Once your child leaves our nursery their Tapestry account will be deleted.

If you have any questions regarding this policy please feel free to ask.