

## Observation prompts for all areas of learning and development

### Personal, social & emotional development (PSED)

<b>Making relationships</b>	<b>Self-confidence &amp; self-awareness</b>	<b>Managing feelings &amp; behaviour</b>
Watching others	Getting attention	Finding comfort
Copying games	Learning about parts of body	Emotional awareness
Communicating	Pointing to / asking for things	Empathy
Cuddles	Sharing ideas with others	Expressing own feelings
Friendships and socialisation	Pretend play linked to home experiences	Cooperation
Stranger danger	Sense of self	Boundaries and rules
Playing alongside / with others	Transitions	Tantrums
Independence	Preferences	Sharing and taking turns
Cooperation	Interests	Sympathy
Sharing experiences / taking turns	Independence	Routines to support behaviour
Affection for others	Welcomes praise	Distracting self from upset
Initiates (starts) play with others	Enjoying responsibility	Patience
Responds to others	Coping in new situations	Taking turns and sharing
Friendly	Confident in groups	Adapting behaviour to the experience
Starting conversations	Asking for help	Coping with change
Listening to others	Expressing needs	Negotiation skills
Conflict resolution	Talking about self confidently	Awareness of effect on others

### Physical development (PD)

<b>Moving</b>	<b>Handling</b>	<b>Health &amp; self-care</b>
Listening to sounds	Holding things	Physical contact
Looking around	Mouthing things	Food routines
Developing gross motor control	Passing toys between hands	Eating utensils
Rolling	Developing fine motor control	Toilet training
Bodily awareness	Sensory play	Likes and dislikes
Sitting	Mark making	Healthy eating
Standing	Balancing blocks	Drinking
Moving around - crawling	Turning pages in a book	Getting dressed
Walking	Pouring	Hygiene routines
Up & down stairs	Using tools - safely / with control	Independence
Running / chasing / changing speed	Drawing shapes	Recognising danger
Squatting	Left / right handed	Managing personal safety
Climbing and balancing	Pencil control	Awareness of and taking risks
Kicking	Copying letter / number shapes	Sleep and rest
Catching and throwing	Anti clockwise pencil movements	Understanding when tired / hot
Jumping and hopping	Writing recognisable letters / numbers	Transporting toys safely

### Communication & language (C & L)

<b>Listening &amp; attention</b>	<b>Understanding</b>	<b>Speaking</b>
Listening to sounds and voices	Recognising name	Communication through...sounds / movement / lifting arms / speech sounds / babbling
Responding to sounds and voices	Understanding gestures and words	Talking / singing to self
Developing listening skills	Body language	Learning new words
Moving to music	Understanding sentences	Extending vocabulary
Exploration	Identifying what is happening in a picture	Single words then putting 2 together
Developing concentration	Answering questions	Asking questions
Rhythm and rhyme	Helping with routines	Talking about people and events
Listening to stories / songs / people	Understanding prepositions	Copying words others use
Responding to sounds	Responding to instructions	Using word endings
Repeating stories / words / refrains	Understanding how and why questions	Using more complex sentences
Following instructions	Sense of humour / jokes	Using tenses
Sitting quietly and listening	Listening to ideas	Intonation, phrasing
Maintaining attention	Discussing	Making sense

## Literacy (Lit)

Reading	Writing
Looking at books / posters / signs / menus Interested in books and rhymes Learning stories Favourite songs, rhymes etc Alliteration Reading stories and poems Recognising familiar words and signs. Looking at books independently Handling books carefully Finding information from books Remembering stories Left to right and top to bottom page awareness in English	Early mark making - physical development - handling which is closely linked with communication and language Talking about marks Being interested in marks in the environment Giving meaning to marks Writing name Writing labels Writing sentences

## Mathematics (Maths)

Numbers	Shape, space & measure
Looking at objects closely Saying number and counting words / names Plays Peepo / hiding games Number songs and rhymes Organising toys into groups Comparing quantities Adding - 1 more / taking away - 1 less Saying numbers in order 1 - 10 / 1 - 20 Comparing groups Asking number questions Recognising / writing numerals (written numbers) Number problems Numbers in the environment Counting anything Recognising number shapes Working out number problems	Sensory awareness Daily routines / timetable Jigsaws / puzzles Towers with blocks Filling and emptying Sense of time Pattern Shape Size Money Position Length Height Weight Capacity Sequence

## Understanding the world (UW)

People & communities	The world	Technology
Home and family life Photos Role playing home life Past and present events Sensitive to the needs of others Friendships Similarities and differences Talking about home life Occupations I am special	Watching things Noticing changes Animals / plants / nature / fish etc People Putting toys together Environment Weather / seasons Small world play Why things happen / science Passing of time - growth / decay / death	Action toys Buttons, flaps and levers Repeated sounds / actions ICT equipment - cameras, phones Dance mat Mechanical toys Remote controlled toys Computers - finding information / using

## Expressive arts & design (A & D)

Exploring & using media & materials	Being imaginative
Dancing and ring games Copying actions Listening to and joining in with music, rhymes and songs Making marks Making music / repeating rhythms Exploring / learning about / mixing colours Texture Construction / using tools for a purpose	Physical action to express self Pretend play Make believe Dressing up Expressing feelings through music, art, dance etc Role play with props Making up stories Playing independently / cooperatively Design and technology