

Little VIPs Assessment Policy



Introduction

This Assessment Policy explains how we observe, monitor, and record children's development in line with the Statutory Framework for EYFS 2025. Assessment supports understanding each child's developmental stage, celebrates progress, and ensures children receive the support they need. It also keeps parents fully informed and involved in their child's learning journey.

Purpose of Assessment

Assessment is used to:

- Understand each child's development, interests, and learning needs
- Inform planning and provision
- Ensure children make progress over time
- Identify any areas where additional support may be needed
- Share clear, meaningful information with parents

Formative Assessment (Ongoing Observation)

Formative assessment is continuous and takes place naturally through daily interactions and observations.

Practitioners:

- Observe children in their play and routines
- Notice what children know, can do, and show interest in
- Use this understanding to guide planning and adapt the learning environment
- Record observations where appropriate (notes, photos, conversations)
- Share these through the Family app

Two-Month Learning Cycles

The nursery works in two-month cycles.

- Observations are gathered throughout each two-month period.
- At the end of the cycle, practitioners review what has been observed and prepare for the next cycle.

Summative Assessment (Assessment at Key Points)

Summative assessments provide a clear overview of a child's development at set times in the year. These assessments describe the child's development across the EYFS areas without evaluative language such as strengths or next steps.

December Assessment Update

Shared via Family and includes:

- A summary of the child's development across EYFS areas
- Clear descriptions of how the child is showing, developing, or demonstrating skills within those areas

April Parent Meeting

Parents are offered a telephone or in-person meeting with the key person to discuss:

- The child's progress and development

- How they are engaging, participating, and developing across the EYFS areas

August Assessment Update

A further written update shared on Family that:

- Provides a descriptive overview of the child’s development at this point in the year
- Summarises how the child is demonstrating skills across the EYFS areas
- Includes additional transition-related information for preschool leavers

Statutory Two-Year Check

Completed between 24–36 months.

This includes:

- A summary of development in the prime areas
- Identification of any emerging concerns
- Shared with parents and other professionals where appropriate

Additional Reporting Points

Six-Week Settling-In Update

After starting nursery or moving rooms, parents receive a settling-in summary describing:

- How the child is adapting
- How they are participating in routines and play
- Early insights into their development

Preschool Leavers’ Transition Report

Children moving on to school receive a detailed descriptive report summarising:

- Their developmental position across EYFS areas
- How they engage in learning (Characteristics of Effective Learning)
- Information to support a smooth transition to Reception

Ongoing Communication with Parents

Parents are recognised as partners in their child’s learning. Communication includes:

- Daily handovers
- Regular updates on Family (messages, photos, observations)
- Opportunities to speak with the key person at any time

Review of Policy

This policy is reviewed annually or earlier if guidance changes.

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
April 2026	Hayley Fassam – Nursery manager	April 2027