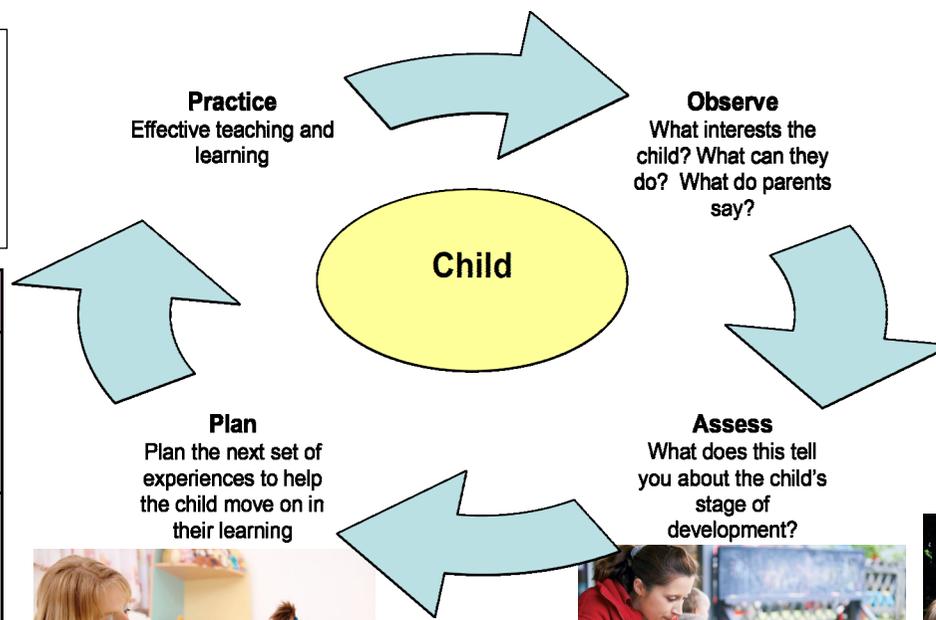


The King's Academy - CACHE
 Knowledge Organiser:
 Unit 2 Observations



Key Questions	
1	Why are tick charts and checklists so useful?
2	What is the difference between a time sample and an event sample?
3	Why is a free description (or narrative record) so difficult? It's just writing what you see.
4	Which type of observation is best for analysing a child's behaviour and why?
5	How do observations help EYPs monitor child development?
6	How do observations help EYPs plan their lessons and activities?
7	How do observations help EYPs support a child if they are struggling with social or emotional difficulties?



Key Terminology		
1	Confidentiality	Private information being kept secret and safe.
2	Objectivity	Based on facts and not influenced by personal beliefs or feelings.
3	Permission/ Consent	The act of allowing someone to do something or allowing something to happen.
4	Observation	Watching and noticing something which usually then leads to a comment or remark.
5	Assess	To look at what's going well and what still needs to improve and making a final comment (making an assessment).
6	Curricula & frameworks	the lessons and academic content taught in a school. E.g. Numeracy curriculum.
7	Practice	An action rather than a thought or idea. Good practice is doing things in a good way.

Links to Criteria	
D2	Identify suitable methods for observing children's holistic development
D3	Give ONE (1) advantage and ONE (1) disadvantage of each of the identified methods
B2	Explain how observations can be used to support the development of children (you will touch on this in introduction)
A1	Explain why it is important for early years workers to understand the pattern of children's holistic development from birth to 5 years

Watch then Discuss

Smidt (2005) considers that discussion between practitioners is an important part of the process of observing and assessing children. She outlines some suggestions for observations, where an EYP is:

- **Looking** at and listening to what is said and done.
- **Documenting** this (writing it down).
- **Reading** through it and thinking about what it reveals.
- **Sharing** their thoughts with others.
- **Agreeing** what to plan for individual children.

Points to remember	
1	Quality observations are the best way to capture children's learning and the EYFS requires practitioners observing children to understand their level of achievement, interest and learning styles. This system can then shape the child's learning through reflecting upon individual observations.
2	It is important that parents and practitioners share what they know so that they can decide whether the child's development is at the expected stage, and to focus them on what to provide in future.
3	Because each child has a unique set of abilities and talents, observations in different situations capture these first hand.