

Childs Observations and Development

AIM – to enable children to reach their fullest potential by meeting the needs of children according to their age and stages of development.

EXPLANATION – staff at Little Darlings Child Care Centre become familiar with children’s development to order to aid children in meeting their fullest potential. The way that staff familiarise themselves with children’s development is by regular observations on children. This will allow staff to develop Long Term and Short Term objectives for children. Observations allow staff to extend and enhance on all areas of development such as their cognitive, social/emotional, self help, language, gross motor and fine motor skills.

IMPLEMENTATION –

- At Little Darlings Child Care Centre we aim to maintain a high quality environment, therefore, trained/experienced and qualified staff are present to work effectively with children in their care.
- Children are grouped according to age, which allows staff to concentrate on a particular age group. A realistic workload is assigned to staff, which allows for effective planning and observing of children.
- Staff complete a minimum of 4 cycles of observations a year. This includes a variety of styles to gather information on the child. These include age appropriate checklists, anecdotes, running records, and samples of work etc. All observations are placed in a file for the child. This information is kept confidential and on the centre premises.
- Observations are interpreted where long term objectives and short term objectives are determined for each child.
- When observing children staff maintain confidentiality and implement this by establishing symbols for each child, which is used during planning to keep child’s name private. Staff will inform parents of the child’s symbol so parents can keep an eye on experiences planned for their child within the programme.