

Monday 15th October 2012

Dear Parents and Carers,

As your child is in the Early Years Unit at our school you may be aware that they are following the Early Years Framework, which has recently been revised as of September 2012. If you would like to know more about the framework we have pages all about it on our website

www.archibaldfirstschool.org.uk/early-years/ and there is also a link on the Parents Guide page to a key document entitled [EYFS Parents Guide and Archibald First School](#) whilst further information can be found at www.foundationyears.org.uk .

At Archibald we are very keen to establish successful working relationships between home and school! This sentiment is echoed throughout the framework with the view of home and school working in partnership.

The idea of an on-going dialogue or sharing of regular two-way observations on learning and development with parents, leads to improved outcomes for children.

Parents and practitioners should reflect together on what:

- a child likes to do;
- he/she is trying to master or has just learned;
- the new words/language structures are emerging; and
- particular interests or patterns in play and exploration are observed at the moment

Your child now has their own 'Learning Journal'. Staff in the Early Years Unit will add to this throughout the year. It provides you with a diary of your child's growing interests and their developments from joining us. If you have a photograph, picture or writing that you would like to add to the Learning Journal we would be delighted to include it at any time. You will get the Learning Journal to keep in July.

Attached to this letter are several blank forms which we would like to invite and encourage you to use. Please use them to comment on your children's achievements and successes at home. Other ideas to record may be;

- What have they finally accomplished?
- What are they trying to do?
- What you feel their next steps may be?
- Their current interests, likes or dislikes.

Adding / attaching a photograph would also be a great way to capture the moment of your child's achievement or of them working towards it. Informing us of their goals will enable us to plan experiences in school to support these goals.

The idea is that when you complete a form you can pop it in the folders marked 'Parents' Contributions'. These folders will be located on the wall at both the Nursery and Reception entrances. The staff will then use the information you provide within the unit and then file these inside your child's Learning Journal.

Additional forms will also be located on the walls for you to take as you need them.

We hope that you can see the benefit and purpose of these forms as a way of sharing information about your child and working together with our Early Years Team to support your child's development both socially, emotionally and academically.

Please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Early Years Team or myself if you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Turner

