



Tapestry Policy

At Brown Bears Nursery, assessment plays an important part in helping parents, carers and practitioners to recognise children's progress, understand their needs and to plan activities and support.

Brown Bears Nursery believes that we need to observe the children in our care and use their observations to track children's progress and plan exciting and meaningful activities and experiences. We use a secure online learning system called Tapestry to record and store all observations and assessments relating to each child. It shows children's developmental progress through the different age bands of the EYFS and is a safe and secure system and one that enables parents and carers to access their child's learning journey at any time. They can share it with their child, family and friends at home and also post any comments and photographs of their own, helping to create a fully holistic view of the child and strengthen the parent partnership. Your child's Key Worker can upload observations, assessments, photographs, and videos using iPads and tablets of the children throughout their time with us.

Procedures

- Observations that are put onto the Tapestry system are validated by the manager before being added to the child's Learning Journey for viewing by the parents.
- The Learning Journey is set up prior to the child having started Brown Bears nursery and the staff may insert the baseline data gathered in the first 8 weeks to form the starting points for the journal.
- During the first term, entries will be made more frequently as the child's key person and other staff get to know the child and this is their starting points.
- New observational entries to a child's Learning Journey will usually be uploaded within two weeks of the observation being made.
- Staff are encouraged to make observations of all the children at the setting, not just their own key child.
- Tapestry is not used as a general communication tool between Brown Bears nursery and home. A child's learning journey is a document recording their learning and development and parents may add comments on observations or contribute photos, videos or information about activities they have been doing at home.

Safety and security

- Staff use iPads or tablets to take photographs for observations which are then uploaded to Tapestry.
- Each staff member has a secure login which is password and pin protected.
- The iPads and tablets are kept in a locked filing cabinet in the office and may not be taken home by staff members under any circumstances.
- Staff will be allocated time at work to update journals and assess their key children's next steps. A dedicated laptop is also provided for this. This will also remain in a secure, locked filing cabinet in the office.
- If any member of staff suspects that their login details have been compromised in any way, they must inform the nursery and a new login will be created.



- The Tapestry online Learning Journey system is hosted on secure dedicated servers based in the UK. All data held on our Tapestry account is owned by Child's Play; we are registered controllers of data with the Information Commissioner's Office and are bound by The General Data Protection Regulations 2018.

- Photographs of children which are stored on the iPads and tablets are deleted on a regular basis by a member of the management team.

Parents

- Parents logging in to the system can only access their own child's Learning Journey.
- Parents may input new observations and photos and add comments to existing observations. They do not have the necessary permissions to edit existing content.
- Parents are asked to sign a consent form giving permission for their child's image to appear in other children's Learning Journeys, and to protect images of other children that may appear in any photos contained in their child's Learning Journey. If parents withhold this consent their child is only ever photographed alone, and no shared observations are made including that child.

Parents without internet

- For parents without access to the internet, we will print all the information from Tapestry and collate it into a paper Learning Journey when the child leaves the setting.
- This will always be securely kept in the setting in the child's dedicated drop file for the parent to view and will be available to take home.

When children leave

- When children move to another setting, we will transfer the Tapestry Journal to the new setting if they also use Tapestry. If they do not, we will email a PDF to the setting.
- When a child leaves Brown Bears nursery to start school, we will email the parents a PDF copy of their child's Learning Journey, so they have a lasting record of their child's time at Preschool.
- The child's information, and their Learning Journey will be permanently deleted from our Tapestry account so no data on that child will remain with us once they have left.
- If the school uses Tapestry, we will transfer the Tapestry Journal to the school. If they do not, we will email a PDF to the school.

Other Policies that can be read in conjunction with this are

- Observation, Assessment and Planning (OAP)
- Photographic
- Safeguarding
- Play & Learning

| This policy was adopted on | Signed on behalf of the nursery | Date for review |
|-----------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| <i>September 2025</i> | | <i>September 2026</i> |