|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  **Playing and Exploring**   |  **Active Learning**  |  **Creating and thinking critically**  |
| Finding out and exploring * What areas / activities are they drawn to?
* Do they prefer to work in a group / alone?
* Do they initiate activities themselves or join in an existing one with a group?
* Do they think aloud describing what they do?
 | Being involved and concentrating * Do the children keep focused on a self-initiated activity for a long period of time?
* Are they concentrating and involved in the activity without being distracted?
* Do they show care with what they’re doing?
* Do they demonstrate concentration through silence or thinking aloud?
 | Having their own ideas * Do they try something different rather than follow what someone else has done?
* Do they address a problem with a strategy?
* Retaining independence – not asking for support even if it takes longer to achieve the outcome
 |
| Using what they know in their play * In play do they draw on experiences from home / outside school?
* Do they act out situations in the role play area?
* Are they confident in finding tools, materials and resources they need for a particular project or idea?

  | Keeping on trying * Do children show persistence – not giving up even if it means starting again?
* Do they ask for help / support if they need it?
* Do they discuss solutions for challenges with peers / adults or work things through themselves?
 | Using what they already know to learn new things * Do they understand patterns and predictability of events?
* Talks about / explains how their process links to a previous experience
* Do they draw upon knowledge or experiences not immediately related to their activity?
 |
| Being willing to have a go * Levels of persistence – do they give up at first hurdle or keep trying?
* Are they eager to try new ideas or do they stay with what they are familiar with?
* Are they able to talk about / review what they’ve done if things haven’t worked?
* Do they work best with continual support or prefer to get on with activities themselves?

  | Enjoying achieving what they set out to do * Is there a sense of satisfaction and pride when they have completed an activity; do they want to show / tell people?
* Do they relish challenges and continually try to make things better?
* Do they evaluate themselves and try different things as a result?
* Are they ‘intrinsically motivated’- achieving things for themselves as opposed to adult praise?
 | Choosing ways to do things and finding new ways * Are they confident in using a ‘trial; and error’ approach and talking about why some things do / don’t work
* Choosing different ways of approaching activities and adapting if it doesn’t work
 |

**Characteristic of Effective Learning**