

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Information and Records

10.4 Policy on the Use of Tapestry Online Journal

At Whimble Preschool we use an online system called Tapestry to record and store all observations and assessments relating to each child. This 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.

Safety and security

Staff use a tablet to take the photographs for observations which are be uploaded to the journals. Each staff member has a secure login which is password and pin protected. The tablet is kept in a secure cupboard at pre-school and may only be taken home by staff members for specific reasons and with the consent of the manager.

Staff will be allocated time at work to update journals and assess their key children's next steps. A dedicated laptop is provided for this. This will remain in a secure cupboard at pre-school and will sometimes be taken home by the manager to approve and publish observations. Staff should have minimal need to work on journals at home but if they wish to do so they may access the Tapestry site using their own device. Staff are not permitted to download any photographs of the children onto their own devices. If staff do work on Tapestry at home they should be aware of any other people around them and make sure they are not overlooked. They must logout as soon as they have stopped working.

If any member of staff suspects that their login details have been compromised in any way, they must inform the pre-school manager and new login details will be created. The Tapestry on-line Learning Journey system is hosted on secure dedicated servers based in the UK. All data held on our Tapestry account is owned by Whimble Preschool; we are the registered controllers of the data in accordance with the Information Commissioner's Office and are bound by the Data Protection Act.

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 permission 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. This will be in the setting for the parent to view at all times and will be available to take home.

When children leave

When children move to another setting we will transfer the Tapestry account 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 the setting 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 pre-school. 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.

This policy was adopted by

Whimble Preschool

On

12/9/19

Date to be reviewed

12/3/21

Signed on behalf of the provider

Name of signatory

Joe Pearce

Role of signatory

Chairperson