

Tips to support the developmentally young child

1. The child may have been identified as having global developmental delay before entering your setting or you may have concerns about a child and need to make detailed observations to be able to clarify the child's developmental level.
2. Through observation it may become evident that delay is different in each area of development. Plan to start from where the child is, to promote progress through developmental stages.
3. Careful planning with a little forethought and imagination for individual children will make big differences.
4. It is important to play full attention to the child's needs as he or she may find it difficult to communicate.



5. Everyone needs to be ambitious for all children and provide appropriate challenges.
6. Staff need to recognise that development is often uneven and may appear to go backwards at times.
7. Provide lots of repetition of short, fun activities including structured choices for the child.
8. All staff need to work together to ensure consistency for the child.
9. Plan for the child to be included in the group.
10. All time for keyworker to observe visiting therapists and other professionals working with the child to ensure strategies can be carried on within the setting.
11. Don't be 'velcroed' to the child, allow space for them to explore.
12. Celebrate small step successes and differences.

