

The Bristol Standard Newsletter provides news and information to settings to support their reflection and development to improve outcomes for children and families across the city.

**Have you ever wondered what happens at a Validation Day?** Bristol Standard validation days take place six times a year and are hosted in different places with each of the Family local authorities taking a turn. On 21<sup>st</sup> May we travelled to Slough where there were 77 submissions in total.



At the start of the day validators are paired up and they work in twos to go through each folder, swapping partners throughout the day.



Helen Williams records all the judgements throughout the day on a large spreadsheet which helps with our analysis of The Bristol Standard. Once a folder has been validated it is then moderated by someone else.



Sarah Spencer (Gloucestershire) and Frances Shillaber (South Glos) quality control a range of submissions to ensure consistency across the day.



So as you can see it is a very rigorous process. At the end of the day lead officers take their folders back to the office and the next day you are informed of the judgements. The busy admin people then type up the letters and prepare the certificates.

Notes are sent to mentors in order for support to be put in place as needed. Please remember that your mentor is there to support your reflection, discussion and self-evaluation. They can help you as you identify areas to develop, ensuring that priorities become clear and that plans are shaped that can be implemented and monitored to help practitioners improve on their previous best.

The next panel is in Plymouth on July 9<sup>th</sup> 2015 when a team of validators will be ready, waiting and privileged to share in your journey of continuous quality improvement for children and families.