



Welcome to the December newsletter

We hope you are all keeping well and managing during the continuing uncertain times. We have been pleased to see how engaged everybody is with their Bristol Standard over the last few months. We continue to be busy and have been updating all our policies and some of our booklets. The mentors are doing a great job supporting you all with your submissions and electronic communication really is working for us.



Wendy Robbins

We were all very sad to hear of the sudden passing of our friend and colleague Wendy Robbins. Wendy worked for 37 years at the Barton Hill Settlement and will be greatly missed by the staff and community that she worked with.

Wendy was a much loved member of the Bristol Standard validation team and more recently a member of the Development Group where she was a real ideas person and problem solver. We all learnt a lot from Wendy about valuing people and Her legacy will live on. This lovely photo demonstrates what a fun loving person Wendy was and we all appreciated her sense of humour at Bristol Standard events.

Bristol Standard Digitalisation

The Bristol Standard team is working hard in liaison with the web designer to make the Bristol Standard fully digitalised. We are prioritising the new pathway submission forms. They are looking really good and will be fully interactive. We are just putting the final touches to them after trialling them with a range of settings so hopefully they will be ready to use in the New Year.

Network meetings and Childminder Dimension sessions

These meetings have been running throughout the current situation and we are finding that the numbers have increased. We have received feedback from childminders who say it is much more convenient for them to join a ZOOM session from the comfort of their own home instead of having to go out in the dark across the city. Details of the sessions are on the website so please make sure you book on using the details on the flyers.

<https://www.bristolearlyyears.org.uk/the-bristol-standard/news/network-meetings/>



Bristol Standard webpages

Please remember to keep visiting the webpages, we are adding exciting things all the time. Sarah Wardle and Jane Smith are the latest to feature in the Meet the Mentor section. Follow this link to read more about them:

<https://www.bristolearlyyears.org.uk/the-bristol-standard/helpful-guides/meet-the-mentors/>



Bristol Standard Outdoor Audit

After a break in action over the summer, we are now back on track with the review of the audit booklet. In November we attended a meeting of BEYORN (Bristol Early Years Outdoor Research Network) and asked for their comments. We have three members of this group on our writing group so have a great deal of outdoor passion and expertise. It was an inspiring meeting and if you are interested in finding out more about BEYORN keep checking the Outdoor section on the website as we are currently preparing information to go on there. We plan to launch the new audit in June.

Bristol Standard for Play

We have been very pleased to hear from some of the Play settings and our BAND colleagues that the Bristol Standard framework has continued to help play settings keep quality at the forefront of their minds during this difficult year. Even if you aren't able to write things down and make a submission, the framework is very useful as a reference guide or stimulus for staff meeting discussions.

Happy Christmas!

May we take this opportunity to wish you all a happy Christmas, in whatever form it takes this year. We look forward to continuing to work with you in 2021. As always if you want to get in touch with the Bristol Standard team please contact

nicky.bale@bristol.gov.uk