



Welcome to our Spring newsletter. So much happened in the Bristol Standard world during the Autumn so this newsletter is well overdue. Most of the work has centred around the Phase 2 digitalisation. It has been an exciting and enlightening journey for us all. The new system will be available for you to do your submission and we will also be validating through the secure website. Letters and certificates will be generated directly from validation day. It has been ground-breaking work and we are very grateful to our designer Alex Tanner. Now Phase 2 has been completed we will be embarking on Phase 3 which will develop a system for settings outside Bristol to buy into the Bristol Standard.

## Bristol Standard team goodbye



We were very sad to say goodbye to our business support officer, Kaye Barrett in October. This was due to a re-organisation of the early years business support team. Kaye has been a vital part of the central Bristol Standard team since 2011 and will be greatly missed. Her organisational skills and knowledge of the Bristol Standard ensured that everything ran like clockwork behind the scenes. She co-ordinated all our events and did the preparations and post-validation work so that everything went smoothly. Mentors, validators and settings all appreciated Kaye's calm manner on the phone and how she helped them with whatever their questions were. Kaye has been a great support to me personally in my role as leader of the Bristol Standard and has been a reliable and loyal assistant. The team said goodbye to Kaye at the validation day in October. We wish Kaye well in her new job.

## Bristol Standard Digitalisation Phase 2 goes LIVE!

We are delighted that the long-awaited and much anticipated Phase 2 is now in the process of going live. All submissions from the old system are being migrated across to the new one. If you were working on a submission you will receive an email inviting you to login in to your new account and to change the temporary password. Once this has been completed you can carry on working on your submission. Validation dates remain unchanged.

The new system has many features that Phase 1 lacked. One that I am sure you will be pleased about is that it has the facility for you to print your submission. The submission forms themselves have been made more user friendly, for example the annotation box is under each strength and the benefits boxes are under each target.

We hope you enjoy using the new system. If you haven't been to one of our network meetings to find out all about it please see the details below. Otherwise there is comprehensive guidance on the site. Which will help you navigate all you need to do. Remember your mentor is always happy to help as well

## The Bristol Standard promotional film

This year we have been working with the Bristol based film company Eyes Up to develop a film to celebrate and promote The Bristol Standard. This has been quite an adventure for us as we ventured into

another world with its own language and way of working. It took several months to discuss, plan and engage settings to be in it. Beth Osborne and I found ourselves suddenly engaged in writing timed scripts. The filming finally took place in the hottest weeks of the summer.

Beth accompanied the film crew to each setting. Beth says that:

*Being involved in the making of The Bristol Standard film was a wonderful experience. Working with the film crew to see the initial script come alive in the film celebrating The Bristol Standard with the children and practitioners in settings across Bristol was a great privilege. It was an experience I will never forget*



Once the filming was complete, we then had to start the process of editing until at last everything was exactly as we wanted it. We are very pleased with the end result and look forward to sharing it with you very soon. We would like to say a very big thank you to the following settings who took part. The staff and children really did us proud and we are thankful for their patience through many takes and for really making us feel welcome

Brunel Fields Primary School  
Laura Barrington – Childminder  
Schools Out, Henleaze – After School Club  
Southmead Children’s Centre  
St Philip’s Marsh Nursery School  
Woodlands Day Nursery

We would also like to thank Nicola Theobald, Early Years Improvement Officer, for her belief in the project and unwavering support, as well as being the leading voice in the film.

### **Network meetings 2022-2023**

Carol, Pat and Liz have planned some inspiring sessions for you for the coming year. The dimension sessions will work their way through the three criteria which are:

- Is your submission covered in depth and detail?
- Is there evidence to support your strengths?



- Are the benefits for children clear?

They will use a dimension at each meeting to illustrate how you can achieve each of the criteria effectively. In addition there will be meetings for those who are new to the Bristol Standard or would like to know more about it. These are open to all providers. There will also be more sessions on the upgraded digital forms. All the meetings below will be on ZOOM. You can find joining instructions through the early years calendar link below which will give you the Eventbrite link to book onto each session.

<https://calendar.bristolearlyyears.org.uk>

Weds 11<sup>th</sup> January – Bringing your setting to life with evidence 4-6pm

Weds 9<sup>th</sup> February – The Bristol Standard Online, guide to new forms 7-9pm

Weds 8<sup>th</sup> March – Recognising impact for the children in your setting 4-6pm

Weds 17<sup>th</sup> May – Introduction to The Bristol Standard 4-6pm

Weds 14<sup>th</sup> June – Ready to submit: Bringing your submission to life 4-6pm

### **Bristol Standard team additions**

We were pleased to be able to recruit five Local Specialist Leaders to the Bristol Standard team. This will enable us to take forward projects that are in our five year plan. The LSLs are employed on a commissioning basis through the Early Years Teaching Hub in line with other subject specialists across the city. In addition we have our Lead Mentors who co-ordinate the network meetings and mentor many of the settings across Bristol. To see the whole team and read about each member please visit the link below

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

### **Outdoor Reflective Booklet**

We will be focusing on this booklet during the spring and summer terms and would like to know you are using it in your setting. We are interested to gather some case studies so please let your lead teacher know if you would like to be involved. Spring is a time when we get renewed enthusiasm for developing our outdoor areas and enlivening our provision.

Thank you for your continued support for and commitment to The Bristol Standard. We love working with you all and look forward to another exciting year.