

'Moving On': Frequently asked questions

1. Can I make a judgment in two age and stage boxes on the individual development map (IDM)?

No. A single 'best fit' assessment needs to be made and entered into a single box, in order to show any progression over a period of time.

2. Should I always record a comment in the comments box on the IDM?

No. Generally you shouldn't record a comment in this box. This is to share any intervention that the child's next setting or school may need a quick notification of, such as the involvement of an external agency such as a speech and language therapist. The comments box is not to be used for planning the child's general next steps, as this is NOT a planning sheet.

3. I can't fill in all of the boxes on the front sheet of the IDM, so shall I leave them blank?

No. Your manager should have all of the information for the required fields. If you do not, then it is important to ask the family for this information, as these factors may have an impact on the child's progress.

4. I am not sure I have made an accurate judgement, so is it ok to complete the IDM in pencil?

No. It is important that all judgements are completed in ink, so that they cannot be altered at a later date, or so that they do not smudge out over time. The IDM will need to be clear and consistent, as it will need to be and used by other practitioners or teachers in other rooms or settings, until the child reaches the end of their Reception year. You may prefer to make a provisional judgment in pencil and then have a conversation about the judgement with a supervisor (or peer) about your judgement, but this must be inked in once agreed.

5. Do I need to update the 'settings attended' grid on the front page of the IDM every time I make a new assessment, or when the child moves into a new room?

No. This should only be updated if the child alters their attendance pattern considerably (for example, dropping sessions from full to part time) or when they actually move to a new setting. It should not be completed when a child transition's in to a new room within the same setting or school.

6. I think my key child's childminder also uses 'Moving On', so do I still need to assess her?

Yes. It would be considered best practice to share your knowledge on the child (with written parental consent) with each other, as this will help you build up a fuller picture of the child's development and learning and support more effective and consistent planning for their next steps.

Your judgements may not always be the same, so a professional dialogue will support your understanding of the child's individual needs.

7. I don't really use the code suggested, as I prefer my own, is this ok?

No. The coding is the same for every setting to use, so that when the IDM is shared with others, all practitioners are clear and have a consistent understanding of how a child is developing. The coding provided, allows you to not only show the progress a child has made over a set period of time, but it also demonstrates the effectiveness of your planning and teaching over the past term.

Should you have any other questions, please contact your Early Years Inclusion and Improvement Adviser