

Reflective writing

Sample learning log

This is an example of a reflective learning log used by science students taking a module called Science into Schools.

Students are expected to complete the learning log each week, and then to summarise the key points, providing evidence of in-depth critical analysis and making connections to a variety of areas.

Examples:

- Reflection on self and personal development, school and organisation of teaching and children's science teaching.
- What the pupils have learnt from you.
- Achievement of personal aims and objectives.
- Capacity to deal with problems, and how such problems were resolved.



University of Leeds

Reflective Learning Log Book

Science into Schools

**School of Physics and Astronomy
School of Chemistry**

3. RECORDING YOUR EXPERIENCE

3.1 Keeping a Record

Remember to take your log book with you to your placement each week so that you don't forget what happened and so that you get into the habit of thinking about potential areas for development. This section will help you note what happened each week.

We suggest you:

- record ideas as you go
- review earlier entries as time goes by
- photocopy and add extra sheets as appropriate (if your placement exceeds 10 weeks)

Keep a note of the pupils you work with each week. Try to give concrete examples of the ways in which you think they have been helped by your placement.

Weekly Record Sheet

Date:

Activities undertaken:

Names of pupils worked with (if relevant):

Observations:

This section is for you to reflect on your experiences today. Please take some time before next week to complete this.

How do you feel about the session?

Positive outcomes

Include comments on: What did you enjoy about the session? What did you see as your contribution? Did the pupils you worked with understand something new? Materials developed? Don't forget to note any evidence for your thoughts.

Challenges faced

Did you have any difficulties? Why do think they arose? How did you deal with them? Don't forget the sources of help (see Section 2.2).

Action

Is there anything you would like to work on/do differently next week? This could be formulated after discussion with the supervising member of staff. It might include: a reminder to yourself to bring in materials or try different approaches with the pupils. Make a note of what happened when you implement your plan.