
Introduction to Unit 6: Working in Early-Years Care and Education

[AS level, mandatory, internally assessed]

OVERVIEW

- Care and education provision for early-years in the local area.
- Job roles and responsibilities available within early-years care and education.
- Application of care values.
- Ways in which children learn and develop.
- Factors that affect learning and performance.
- Planning and implementing activities for children in care and education settings.

SUITABLE TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGIES/ACTIVITIES?

- Group work to research and present information about provision available in the local area.
- Work placements/work shadowing in early-years settings.
- Observation of children in an actual setting, invited into the centre or in a child's own home environment.
- Visiting speakers/interviews with practitioners.
- Opportunities to visit further education/higher education settings to investigate the courses and qualifications available for early-years care and education providers.
- Case studies to compare the application of the care values.
- Role play to demonstrate application of the care values.
- Interview primary school teacher/early-years specialist about the strategies used to aid learning.
- Carrying out an activity with a child or group of children in a setting, during an organised event at the centre or in a child's own home.

POSSIBLE PITFALLS

- Trying to cover too many examples of early-years provision.
- Demonstrating limited understanding of the purpose of each early-years provision.
- Map too small, lack of key on map making it difficult to show the location of each service provision.
- Poor choice of setting.
- Limited information provided about the job roles.
- Confusion between skills and qualities.
- Inaccurate qualifications for the job roles identified.
- Care values must be those linked to early-years which are different from those applied in health or social care settings.
- Unsuitable activity planned and carried out with children.

RESOURCES

- Local pre-school learning alliance.
- Local early-years care and education providers.
- New Start centres.
- National Standards for early-years care.
- Early-years care and education workers.
- Further and higher education institutions.
- NVQ early-years care and education textbooks and resources.
- New Start, CACHE and other early-years providers websites (see [Unit Specification](#)).