

IGCSE Child Development (0637)

What is the course book?

No one book is prescribed. However, many centres find Pamela Minett 'Child Care and Development' Fourth edition 2001 John Murray, ISBN 0719586100, very useful.

There are also a number of suggested textbooks:

H. Brennan, J. Fairclough, V. Hall, E. Nicholson & E. Rees Child Development: A Complete Course for GCSE 2001 Hodder & Stoughton Educational ISBN 0340782722
T. Bruce Learning through Play: Babies, Toddlers and the Foundation Stage 2001 Hodder & Stoughton Educational ISBN 0340801522
G. C. Davenport An Introduction to Child Development Second edition 1994 Collins Educational ISBN 0044480393
C. Flanagan Applying Psychology to Early Child Development 1996 Hodder & Stoughton Educational ISBN 0340643927
Valda Reynolds A Practical Guide to Child Development: Child 1987 Nelson Thornes ISBN 085950221X
Valda Reynolds A Practical Guide to Child Development: Family 1987 Nelson Thornes ISBN 0859502406
Valda Reynolds Finding out about Child Development 1989 Nelson Thornes ISBN 0859509281
Kate Williams & Ruth Gardner Caring for Children Second edition 1996 Longman ISBN 0582287391

Out-of-print textbooks that are still useful:

Valda Reynolds Child Development: Coursework Explained 1990 Nelson Thornes 074870177X

Periodicals:

Nursing Cloister Court 22-26 Farringdon Lane London, EC1R 3AU United Kingdom
Practical Parenting IPC Magazines Limited Kings Reach Tower Stamford Street London SE1 9LS United Kingdom

I am having problems getting hold of the recommended textbooks. Can you help?

Most of the texts can be obtained over the Internet. The following web-sites may be of interest:

- www.amazon.co.uk
- www.heffers.co.uk

Do I need to teach the course in the order given in the syllabus?

No, the order in which you teach the course is entirely up to you, although the basic syllabus order is often followed. To a large extent it depends on the individual department or teacher and the preparation of the students in previous school years.

How will the students be assessed?

There are three parts to the scheme of assessment for Child Development.

Paper 1 is a question paper which has been written by CIE. The date of the examination can be found in the examination timetable. The paper consists of a number of short-answer questions, all of which must be answered; 2 structured questions, which the candidates answer from a choice of 4; and 1 essay question, from a choice of 2 options. Paper 1 is worth 100 marks.

Paper 2 is a **Child Development Study**, and is marked out of 50.

Paper 3 is a **Practical Investigation**, and is marked out of 50.

What is the difference between the Child Development Study and the Practical Investigation?

The Child Development Study involves actually working with one child, or a group of children. The students should record what has happened to the child, or children, and what this experience tells them about Child Development. The Practical Investigation involves finding out about a topic area of the syllabus or a study of child oriented consumer items. It is much more general and involves the candidates in conducting research, doing their own reading and writing a report.

How old can the child be?

The child or group of children can only be up to 5 years of age. Older children must not be used for the study.

When should the students do the Child Development Study and the Practical Investigation?

Both of these investigations can take place during the normal school day or as homework. However, the Individual Candidate Record Cards and Coursework Assessment Summary Sheets (which are used to assess and record coursework) must be received by CIE no later than 30 April for the June examination and 31 October for the November examination. You will also need to send a sample of the coursework undertaken by the candidates.

Where can I find copies of the Candidate Record Cards and the Coursework Summary Sheets?

Copies of the Child Study Individual Candidate Record Card and Coursework Assessment Summary Sheet are at the back of the syllabus. You can make photocopies of these to help you keep records of how your Candidates are performing. You also need to fill in an Individual Candidate Record Card and a Coursework Assessment Summary Form for the Practical Investigation. There are copies of these at the back of the syllabus, and they can also be photocopied.

How is coursework assessed?

Teachers may not undertake school-based assessment without the written approval of CIE. Teachers who satisfy CIE requirements can internally mark and moderate the work of the Centre. These marks are then externally moderated through the Candidate Record Cards, the Coursework Summary Sheets and the samples of coursework sent out by the Centre. The Assessment Criteria for Coursework are published in the syllabus. You might find it useful to look at these as they may help you to see where your students could improve their coursework.

Is it possible to train as an approved assessor without attending a course?

Yes, this can be done through Distance Learning. A Distance Training Pack for 0637 Child Development, priced £44, can be ordered from CIE Publications. Each pack contains a distance training manual, syllabus, standards booklets (where available) and mark sheets. *It is only necessary for each centre to purchase one pack and then any number of teachers can work through the pack.* An additional charge of £20 is payable for each assessment returned to UCLES. Once this assessment is judged to be satisfactory a certificate will be issued.