



Curriculum Overview – Characteristics of Effective Learning - Playing and Exploring (Engagement)

Early Years Curriculum

Early Years Curriculum – Playing and Exploring (Engagement)

<p>Finding out and exploring is concerned with children’s open-ended hands-on experiences. These result from innate curiosity and provide the raw , sensory material from which the child builds concepts, tests ideas and finds things out.</p>	<p>Using what they know in their play describes how children use play to bring together their current understandings, combining, refining and exploring their ideas in imaginative ways. Representing experiences through imaginative play supports the development of narrative thought, the ability to see from other perspectives, and symbolic thinking.</p>	<p>Being willing to have a go refers to the child finding an interest, initiating activities, seeking challenge, having a ‘I can do’ orientation, being willing to take a risk in new experiences, and developing the view of failures as opportunities to learn.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can explore and I am curious to find out more. (How does the child demonstrate natural curiosity?) • I can notice patterns, changes, similarities and differences when exploring across the curriculum. • I can show curiosity about objects, events and people. (In what way?) • I can use my senses to explore the world around me. (Is any sense perhaps used more than any other?) • I can engage in open-ended activity. (How?) • I can show particular interests. (In what?) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can use what I discover in play and link it to my existing knowledge. (How?) • I can combine, refine and explore ideas in imaginative ways. (How?) • I can see things from other perspectives. (How do you know?) • I can pretend objects are things from my experience (symbolic play). (What examples I can you give?) • I can represent my experiences in my play. (How?) • I can take on a role in my play. (Any particular role?) • I can act out experiences with others (Children or adults). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can initiate activities around my own interests. • I can seek challenges and take risks in new experiences. • I can learn from mistakes without becoming disheartened. • I can initiate activities/experiences. (What kind of activities/experiences?) • I can seek challenges. • I can show an ‘I can do’ attitude. (What example do you have?) • I can take risks, engage in new experiences and learn by trial and error.