

Overview

This standard identifies the requirements when supporting the holistic development of children and young people. This includes supporting their physical, emotional, social, linguistic, communication and cognitive development. This also includes contributing to planning for the developmental needs of children or young people, ensuring a child-centred approach.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. observe how children or young people move, co-ordinate their movements and use equipment
2. observe the confidence and participation of children or young people, and how they use opportunities to build self-esteem and relate to others
3. observe the concentration and attention of children or young people
4. observe how children or young people prefer to learn
5. observe how children or young people use their imagination and creativity
6. observe how children or young people use language, communication and express their feelings and emotions
7. feedback the findings from observations to others
8. contribute to the assessment and planning of the development of children or young people
9. provide spaces, experiences and interactions to support the hand eye co-ordination and fine and gross motor skills of children or young people
10. provide time and opportunities for children or young people to practise physical skills
11. support the provision of spaces, experiences and interactions to support the cognitive development and communication of children or young people
12. celebrate and encourage the social development and positive interactions of children or young people
13. encourage and support the independence of children or young people to make choices and decisions for themselves
14. contribute to positive and encouraging environments which supports the preferences and needs of children or young people
15. contribute to records and reports required for the development of children or young people
16. reflect on how you carried out your roles and responsibilities when supporting the development of children or young people

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. how to ensure information about development is accessible to children and young people and others
2. the transitions children and young people can experience and the impact of change on their development
3. the pattern of development from pre-birth to 21 years
4. social, physical and economic factors that can affect the development of children and young people
5. the influence of neurodivergence and additional needs on the development of children and young people
6. the influence of culture and background on the development of children and young people
7. the workplace procedures for observation and assessment of the development of children and young people
8. a range of methods to observe children and young people
9. types of digital tools and devices that can support the development of children and young people
10. the importance of providing feedback on observations to inform practice
11. how to contribute to planning for the development of children and young people
12. how to develop consistent, caring, and nurturing relationships with children and young people
13. how to support emotional wellbeing, confidence, and resilience in children and young people
14. ways to be supportive, realistic, and consistent in responses to the behaviour of children and young people
15. how to give meaningful encouragement and celebrate the achievements of children and young people
16. the importance of listening to children and young people and ensuring that they feel heard and involved in planning
17. the importance of dignity, kindness, and compassion in promoting the development of children and young people
18. how to support the development of emotional regulation in children and young people
19. how to apply trauma informed principles to support the development of children

and young people

20. different opportunities for children and young people to assess and take positive risks
21. how everyday care routines can support the development of children and young people
22. range of spaces, experiences and interactions used to support the development of children and young people
23. how encouraging and safe environments can support physical skills and confidence in movement
24. how to support the numeracy development of children and young people
25. how to support the literacy development of children and young people
26. how to support communication through a range of methods and in bilingual or multilingual settings
27. how to encourage creativity of children and young people
28. the importance of hands-on experiences and opportunities to explore open-ended, sustainable and natural materials
29. how to support access to quiet periods and times to rest
30. the records and reports required for supporting the development of children and young people
31. the relevant legal requirements, standards of practice, frameworks and guidance for supporting the development of children and young people
32. the workplace requirements on equality, diversity, inclusion and rights when supporting the development of children and young people
33. how your personal experiences and unconscious bias may impact when supporting the development of children and young people, and how to address this
34. the role of supervision, reflective practice and learning and development in supporting the development of children and young people

Glossary

The glossary for this National Occupational Standard is available on the Skills for Care and Development website.

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