Module Specifications: School of Health & Social Sciences

Module Title: The Holistic Approach to Child Development
Module Code: BAEY14C/BAEY24C
Level: 4
Credits: 30

Pre-requisites: Placement with child 0-8

Module Description:
Understanding how children develop is a key requirement for all those who work in early years settings. It is a time of rapid growth, and professionals need to develop an understanding of the implications of children’s developmental processes in order to meet their holistic needs. Central to this understanding is the development of skills in observing children and of interpreting those observations.

Indicative Content:
Factors influencing development, such as ecological systems theory, and neuroscience
- Key theories and perspectives in child development
- Approaches to studying the developing child – observation and other research methods
- Physical development and biological theories of child development
- Cognitive development – perception, memory, attention, and intelligence theories
- Language development, focusing on social constructivist theories
- Social development, considering theories of socialisation, friendship and morality
- Emotional development, attachment theory and psychoanalytic theories
- External influences on development including the learning environment, differences and diversity.
- Styles and techniques for observing children
- Practice in observing children
- Child engagement: The strength of an activity.
- How to evaluate those observations using theories of child development and learning
- Making recommendations based on theories of child development and learning

Learning and Teaching Methods:
Students will look at typical and atypical growth and development of young children and their interaction with their environment, towards a transactional view of how biological, social and cultural factors influence patterns of change. This will be done principally through the medium of their observations of young children in early years settings. Students will evaluate their observations, considering predominant psychological and educational theories and perspectives. They will be encouraged to understand stage theories based upon normative models of child development.
development, and to critique this view of childhood. They will consider implications for inclusive learning and begin to relate these to curriculum frameworks, beginning to develop a critical understanding of current educational practice.

**Specific Learning Resources:**

**Bibliography**

Highly recommended


Recommended


**Journals**

- *Child: Care, Health and Development*
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Child Development
Early Years Educator
International Journal of Early Years

Background reading

Module Learning Outcomes

Subject Specific Learning Outcomes
*On successful completion of this module you will be able to:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LO1</th>
<th>Demonstrate an understanding of the stages of development. Explore the impact this has on the care needs of the child 0-8yrs.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LO2</td>
<td>Discuss the impact of the environment on the development of the psychosocial, emotional and physical development of the child 0-8years.</td>
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<tr>
<td>LO3</td>
<td>Outline the developing skills of the selected observed child. Discuss how this relates to theories explored in module.</td>
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<td>LO4</td>
<td>Analyse and evaluate three selected theorists and how this can relate to the holistic development of the child.</td>
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**Assessment Title or element** | **Weighting (%)**
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Written assignment: 6,000 words* | 100%
*To demonstrate your knowledge of the holistic development of the child 0-8yrs and the relating care needs. This is to include a child study comprising of a range of child observations, and a reflective commentary, which demonstrates the application of theories of learning and perspectives from developmental psychology to enrich their understanding of the individual child.*
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* All module assessment requires demonstration that the learning outcomes for this module have been achieved.

Information correct at point of publication.