



Higher National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Childhood Practice: Leadership and Management
(Workplace Practice)

Unit code: FD72 36

Superclass: PN

Publication date: August 2010

Source: Scottish Qualifications Authority

Version: 01

Unit purpose

This Unit will focus the candidate on reflecting on their own knowledge and understanding of the Benchmark Standards for Childhood Practice based on their own professional leadership and management practice, then articulating this into a workplace experience from a different professional service which supports children, young people and their families.

The Unit will provide the candidate with the opportunity to develop and critically reflect on own professional values and personal commitment, to reflect on their own professional knowledge and understanding and their own professional skills and abilities.

The candidate will undertake a professional work practice placement in an external service which supports children, young people and their families and then critically reflect on the professional values and personal commitment, professional knowledge, understanding, skills and abilities in this service.

The candidate will be able to critically reflect on their own professional leadership and management practice in relation to Childhood Practice across the sector.

To enable candidates to complete this Unit they should be appropriately employed in the child care sector and have suitable alternative work placement within a professional service within for Children and young people working within the Child Practice Standards.

On completion of this Unit the candidate should be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate and critically reflect on own professional values and personal commitment, and professional knowledge and understanding of childhood practice.
- 2 Demonstrate and critically reflect on own professional skills and abilities for leading and managing services for children, young people and their families.

General information (cont)

- 3 Research and identify an external service which supports children, young people and their families.
- 4 Undertake a professional work practice placement within an external service which supports children, young people and their families.
- 5 Critically reflect on own professional values and personal commitment, professional knowledge, understanding, skills and abilities within services which support children, young people and their families.
- 6 Critically reflect on own professional leadership and management practice in relation to Childhood Practice

Recommended prior knowledge and skills

Candidates should already have qualifications that meet the requirements of the Scottish Social Services Council for practitioner (SCQF level 7) and have relevant qualifications at SCQF level 8.

Candidates should be working at lead practitioner or manager level within a care service for children and young people.

Candidates should have well-developed communication and interpersonal skills and be able to demonstrate the ability to think analytically and reflectively.

Credit points and level

4 Higher National Unit credits at SCQF level 9: (32 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 9*)

**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

Core Skills

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skill(s) of *Communication, Working with Others* and *Problem Solving* in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Candidates who use the Internet to conduct research will also have opportunities to develop skills in *Information and Communications Technology* and *Numeracy* depending on the variety of data gathered and how the data is presented.

Context for delivery

If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

This Unit should be delivered as part of the Group Award.

There is a recommendation that this Unit should be integrated with the mandatory Unit *Childhood Practice: Leadership and Management* and with two other appropriate Units from the Childhood Practice mandatory option section of the Award.

General information (cont)

Assessment

The recommended sequence of delivery for this Unit should be the mandatory Unit *Childhood Practice: Leadership and Management* and with two other appropriate Units from the Childhood Practice mandatory option section of the Award.

Further guidance on the recommended integrated delivery and assessment for the Group Awards can be found in the respective Arrangements documents.

Candidates can present their evidence in the form of reflective reports of 4000 words which can be completed in their own time, based on workplace experience from at least two services (your own organisation and an alternative child care setting) which support children, young people and their families linked to the two Units undertaken in the mandatory option section.

This reflective report will be supported by a folio of evidence, and may be complimented with integrated holistic assessment from other Units in the award.

The portfolio of evidence will contain:

- ◆ Proposal and Plan for work practice placement
- ◆ Reflective Journal or Blog from work practice placement
- ◆ Feedback from Manager or Supervisor in work practice placement
- ◆ Review of Plan
- ◆ Feedback from Tutor

A written report may be supplemented by written/oral questions to ensure all aspects of the Evidence Requirements are fully met.

The assessment for this Unit should be holistic and integrated across the PDA Childhood Practice (SCQF level 9) and the candidate should be encouraged to relate knowledge and understanding from other Units into the assessment responses for this Unit.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Childhood Practice: Leadership and Management
(Workplace Practice)

Unit code: FD72 36

The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, Knowledge and/or Skills, and Evidence Requirements are mandatory.

Outcome 1

Demonstrate and critically reflect on own professional values and personal commitment, and professional knowledge and understanding of childhood practice.

Knowledge and/or Skills

Candidates should demonstrate ability to:

- ◆ importance of reflective practice to the childhood practice professional
- ◆ professional values for children's rights, protection and care
- ◆ professional commitment to participatory partnerships
- ◆ manage resources to take responsibility for their own professional learning and development
- ◆ demonstrate a broad and balanced knowledge of children and childhoods to underpin professional practice
- ◆ demonstrate knowledge of relevant frameworks and programmes
- ◆ demonstrate principles, theories and concepts of leadership and management practice relevant to own professional practice
- ◆ demonstrate knowledge of services and professional roles and responsibilities within the framework for Childhood Practice
- ◆ use critical understanding of the theories and principles required to analyse and critically evaluate own professional knowledge and practice

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ Demonstrate own professional childhood practice
- ◆ Evaluate and reflect on their professional values and personal commitment in relation to childhood practice, children's rights, protection and care, participatory partnerships and own professional learning and development
- ◆ Critically reflect on own professional practice in relation to knowledge of children and childhood, relevant frameworks and programmes, leadership and management practice and professional roles
- ◆ Make the appropriate connections with theory or principles that they have learned within the mandatory Units within the Award and with their learning from the mandatory option Unit

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Childhood Practice: Leadership and Management
(Workplace Practice)

Assessment Guidelines

Candidates are required to produce two critical reflective reports:

The first links their own professional values and personal commitment with a piece of their own professional practice and highlighting the relevance to the Benchmark Standards for Childhood Practice.

The second links their own professional knowledge and understanding with the Benchmark Standards for Childhood Practice.

Each report should be a concise and considered piece of work of 500 words.

These reflective reports should be submitted as part of the final folio of evidence for summative assessment. Feedback from the tutor should also be submitted.

Outcome 2

Demonstrate and critically reflect on own professional skills and abilities for leading and managing services for children, young people and their families.

Knowledge and/or Skills

Candidates should demonstrate ability to:

- ◆ co-ordinate and lead environments which support play, learning opportunities and experiences
- ◆ lead the development of positive and caring relationships with each child and family
- ◆ lead and manage communication, collaboration and partnership within services which support children, young people and their families
- ◆ identify and support professional development needs of self and colleagues
- ◆ delivery and ongoing development of a high quality childcare service

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ Demonstrate own professional skills and abilities for working with children and young people
- ◆ Review and evaluate own professional skills and abilities
- ◆ Produce a critical reflective report of professional skills and abilities

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Childhood Practice: Leadership and Management
(Workplace Practice)

Assessment Guidelines

Produce a report which critically reflects on their own professional skills and abilities for working with children, young people and their families. This should relate to the Benchmark Standards for Childhood Practice.

This should be a concise and considered piece of work in 1000 words, reflecting on professional skills and abilities within knowledge and skills listed above.

This reflective report should be submitted as part of the final folio of evidence for summative assessment. Feedback from the tutor should also be submitted.

Outcome 3

Research and identify an external service which supports children, young people and their families.

Knowledge and/or Skills

Candidates should demonstrate ability to:

- ◆ research a range of services that support children, young people and their families
- ◆ identify the 'best fit' external service
- ◆ identify opportunities to develop own professional values and personal commitment
- ◆ identify opportunities to develop own professional knowledge and understanding
- ◆ identify opportunities to develop own professional skills and abilities
- ◆ produce realistic and achievable proposal and plan
- ◆ effective communication

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ Produce an appropriate, realistic and achievable plan to undertake workplace practice, which includes timescale, aims and objectives, contingency planning
- ◆ Produce proposals for work practice which shows how they will demonstrate professional values and commitment; knowledge and understanding and skills and abilities within their work practice placement
- ◆ Effectively communicate the proposal and plan to the tutor and manager of service

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Childhood Practice: Leadership and Management
(Workplace Practice)

Assessment Guidelines

This Outcome should be holistically assessed, where candidates produce and submit their final reflective portfolio of assessment.

The Work Practice Proposal and Plan should be agreed and signed by the tutor and manager of the external organisation where the work practice is being undertaken.

This should be formally assessed through a process of individual meetings with the tutor. Meetings should be included in the critical reflective accounts in the final portfolio of evidence.

This Outcome should be linked to one of the mandatory option Units within the PDA Childhood Practice (SCQF level 9).

Outcome 4

Undertake a professional work practice placement within an external service which supports children, young people and their families.

Knowledge and/or Skills

Candidates should demonstrate ability to:

- ◆ Demonstrate and develop professional values and personal commitment
- ◆ Demonstrate and develop professional knowledge and understanding
- ◆ Demonstrate and develop professional skills and abilities for working with children, young people and their families
- ◆ Critically reflect on own professional practice
- ◆ Progress review and analysis

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ Demonstrate professional values and commitment; knowledge and understanding and skills
- ◆ The abilities within their work practice placement
- ◆ Produce a critical reflective journal or blog
- ◆ Review the agreed plan for work practice placement

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Childhood Practice: Leadership and Management
(Workplace Practice)

Assessment Guidelines

The candidate is required to produce a critically reflective journal which demonstrates how they have developed their professional values and personal commitment, their professional knowledge and understanding and their professional skills and abilities for working with children, young people and their families within the professional work practice placement.

The review of the plan should be undertaken with the manager of the organisation prior to completion of the work practice placement. This review should be included in the final submission of the folio of evidence.

Outcome 5

Critically reflect on own professional values and personal commitment, professional knowledge, understanding, skills and abilities within services which support children, young people and their families.

Knowledge and/or Skills

Candidates should demonstrate ability to:

- ◆ Critical reflective practice in relation to professional values and personal commitment across two services which support children, young people and their families
- ◆ Critical reflective practice in relation to professional knowledge and understanding of childhood practice
- ◆ Critical reflective practice in relation to professional skills and abilities for working with children, young people and their families
- ◆ Identify similarities and specialism across childhood practice
- ◆ Evaluate the impact on own professional practice

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ Make appropriate connections across their professional practice
- ◆ Critically evaluate own professional values and personal commitment, professional knowledge and skills in relation to services for children, young people and their families

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Childhood Practice: Leadership and Management
(Workplace Practice)

Assessment Guidelines

Candidates can produce three additions to their critical reflective reports from Outcomes 1 and 2 which identify the same professional values and commitment; knowledge and understanding and skills and abilities within their work practice placement.

The candidate should make appropriate connections with theory or principles that they have learned within the mandatory Units within the Award and with their learning from the mandatory option Unit.

These three additions should be concise and considered pieces of work of 500 words each.

These should all be submitted as part of the folio of evidence required for final summative assessment.

Outcome 6

Critically reflect on own professional leadership and management practice in relation to Childhood Practice.

Knowledge and/or Skills

Candidates should demonstrate ability to:

- ◆ Critically reflect on own professional leadership and management practice
- ◆ Critically analyse professional childhood practice within the work practice placement
- ◆ Contrast and compare professional childhood practice across services for children, young people and their families
- ◆ Use reflection on practice to identify improvements to own professional practice

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ Contrast and compare their professional childhood practice and that found within their work practice placement.
- ◆ Critically analyse and reflect on the similarities and the differences in the personal values and professional commitment, the professional knowledge and understanding and professional skills and abilities.
- ◆ Identify areas for improvement in own professional practice

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Childhood Practice: Leadership and Management
(Workplace Practice)

Assessment Guidelines

Candidates can present their evidence in the form of a reflective essay of 1000 words which can be completed in their own time, based on work practice placement and their own professional practice within services for children, young people and their families related to childhood practice. This essay must build on their reflection in the three critical reflective reports from Outcomes 1, 2, 3 and 5 and should be referenced to the mandatory Units and with two mandatory option Units within the Award.

The candidate must submit the three critical reflective reports from Outcomes 1, 2, 3 and 5.

A written report may be supplemented by written/oral questions, reflective journal or blog to ensure all aspects of the Evidence Requirements are fully met.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Childhood Practice: Leadership and Management
(Workplace Practice)

This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 160 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This is a substantial Unit in terms of the SCQF level and the credit points. This Unit is suitable for candidates who already have a comprehensive knowledge of childhood practice and the leadership and management practice required within the services which support children, young people and their families. It can be used to support those developing and/or enhancing their leadership and management knowledge and practice.

The purpose of this Unit is to allow candidates to develop their knowledge, skills and practice within services which support children, young people and their families. It is comprehensive in covering their professional values and personal commitment, their knowledge and understanding of childhood practice and their professional skills and abilities to lead and manage services for children and young people.

The Unit is also designed to enhance and develop the candidates' capacity for self-direction, planning, communication, and critical review of their own work to achieve confidence in their own professional practice. Candidates can develop transferable skills, abilities and knowledge to allow them to extend professionally across services that support children, young people and their families.

Candidates at this level are expected to exercise autonomy and initiative at a professional level throughout this Unit. They will be critically analysed and evaluate their own work and development throughout the Unit. They will be expected to make focussed and specific connections between their knowledge and understanding and their own professional practice. They should use a range of sources and techniques to make judgements about their progress and development.

Candidates should expect regular one-to-one sessions with their tutor and discussions with the class to enable them to share experiences about progress, development and evaluation. This need not be physical class meetings, but may be supported by discussion forums or through virtual learning environments.

It is essential that candidates articulate their knowledge and understanding from other Units in the PDA to develop and enhance into their leadership and management practice. They should demonstrate a broad and integrated knowledge and understanding of the professional services that support children, young people and their families and be able to relate this to the specialism found in their own services and in the external service. This knowledge should be linked to the development of the candidates own professional practice.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Childhood Practice: Leadership and Management
(Workplace Practice)

Outcomes 1 and 5

The candidate must have the opportunity to consider the importance of reflective practice to the childhood practice professional. They should analyse their own professional values for children's rights, protection and care including: equality, diversity and inclusion, social justice and anti-discrimination. They need to develop their professional commitment to participatory partnerships, including colleagues, parents and carers, families, communities and other agencies and partnerships with whom they work and to manage resources to take responsibility for their own professional learning and development.

The candidate should integrate their broad and balanced knowledge of children and childhoods to underpin their professional practice. This should include their knowledge of relevant frameworks and programmes, including national and local legislation and policies, organisational frameworks and statements of principles for supporting and enabling play, active learning opportunities and experiences, and development of children and young people. The candidate should use their knowledge of services and professional roles and responsibilities within the framework for Childhood Practice and the principles, theories and concepts of leadership and management practice relevant to their own professional practice.

This knowledge can be integrated from mandatory Units within the PDA Childhood Practice (SCQF level 9) and in this Unit synthesised with their professional practice. The candidate should use this to analyse and critically evaluate professional knowledge and practice.

Outcomes 2 and 5

The candidate must analyse and evaluate their own skills and abilities for working with children, young people and their families. In order to do this they must consider the following aspects of the delivery and ongoing development of a high quality childcare service:

- ◆ their ability to co-ordinate and lead environments which support play, learning opportunities and experiences that are safe, secure, caring and nurturing, and inclusive, and provide balanced and flexible programmes
- ◆ their ability to lead the development of positive and caring relationships with each child and family
- ◆ their skills of communication, collaboration and partnership within services which support children, young people and their families
- ◆ their ability to identify and support professional development needs of self and colleagues

This knowledge can be integrated from the mandatory option Units within the PDA Childhood Practice (SCQF level 9) which is most closely related to their workplace, and/or their employment or work practice placement. The candidate should use this to analyse and critically evaluate professional skills and abilities.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Childhood Practice: Leadership and Management
(Workplace Practice)

Outcomes 3 and 4

The candidate should have the opportunity to meet with their tutor individually to develop their proposal into a plan for their work practice placement. The candidate must get approval from the management of the external service.

This placement should be in an external and different service to the one where the candidate is employed and/or on placement. This service can cover a wide range of services which support children, young people and their families and should be linked to another Unit from the mandatory option section of the PDA Childhood Practice (SCQF level 9).

For example, if the candidate is a manager of a nursery (*Childhood Practice: Early Learning*) then they may identify an external service as the local youth work service (*Childhood Practice: Youth Work*) or the Play Ranger Service (*Childhood Practice: Playwork*). It would even be possible for the candidate to identify the Reporter to the Children's Panel (*Childhood Practice: Family Support*). The final decision about the suitability of the proposal is at the discretion of the tutor.

There is no minimum amount of time to be spent in the work practice placement, as this will depend on local circumstances but it should be a sufficient length of time to enable significant learning and development.

The support of manager or supervisor in the work practice placement is central in contributing to the provision of an appropriate environment to allow the candidate to demonstrate professional practice and is an essential aspect of the partnership arrangement. The manager or supervisor should hold a qualification required for registration as a lead practitioner/manager with the Scottish Social Services Council.

Outcome 6

The candidate should demonstrate that they can critically reflect on own professional leadership and management practice in relation to Childhood Practice. The candidate should undertake critical analysis, evaluation and/or synthesis of their own professional values and personal commitment, their professional knowledge and understanding and their professional skills and abilities with the broad Benchmark Standards for Childhood Practice. They should draw on a number of sources to undertake this critical reflection, their own reflective reports, their reflective journal or blogs, feedback from manager or supervisor, feedback from tutor or from peer discussion groups.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit is a mandatory Unit within the PDA Childhood Practice (SCQF level 9) and should be delivered as part of the Group Award.

There is a requirement that it must be integrated with the mandatory Unit: *Leadership and Management of Childhood Practice* and with two of the Units from the mandatory option section of the Award.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Childhood Practice: Leadership and Management (Workplace Practice)

This Unit presupposes that the candidate will already be working or on placement in a service that supports children, young people and their families, and that they must undertake a work practice placement in another external childhood practice service.

It is expected that this Unit will be undertaken as part of the integrated delivery of this award and that delivery and assessment will be carried out in a manner which is integrated with other relevant Units – *Childhood Practice: Leadership and Management* and with two of the Units from the mandatory option section of the Award.

Guidance on the integrated delivery and assessment for the Group Awards that this Unit forms can be found in the respective Arrangements documents.

Candidates can present their evidence in the form of reflective reports (total of approx 4500 words) which can be completed in their own time, based on workplace experience from at least two services which support children, young people and their families linked to the two Units undertaken in the mandatory option section.

Own Workplace/Placement (Outcomes 1 and 2)	External Service (Work Practice Placement) (Outcome 5)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Own professional values and personal commitment with a piece of their own professional practice and highlighting the relevance to the Benchmark Standards for Childhood Practice. (500 words) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Produce additions to the critical reflective reports from Outcome 1 which identifies the same professional values and personal commitment within their work practice placement. (500 words)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Own professional knowledge and understanding with the Benchmark Standards for Childhood Practice. (500 words) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Produce additions to the critical reflective reports from Outcome 1, which identifies the knowledge and understanding within their work practice placement. (500 words)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Own professional skills and abilities for working with children, young people and their families. This should relate to the Benchmark Standards for Childhood Practice. (1000 words) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Produce additions to their critical reflective reports from Outcome 2 which identifies the skills and abilities within their work practice placement. (500 words)
(Outcome 6)	
<p>Reflective essay (1000 words) which can be completed in their own time, based on work practice placement and their own professional practice within services for children, young people and their families related to childhood practice.</p> <p>This essay must build on their reflection in the three critical reflective reports from Outcomes 1, 2, 3 and 5 and should be referenced to the mandatory Units and with two mandatory option Units within the Award.</p>	

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Childhood Practice: Leadership and Management
(Workplace Practice)

These reflective reports will be supported by a portfolio of evidence, and may be complimented with integrated holistic assessment from other Units in the award.

The portfolio of evidence will contain:

- ◆ Proposal and Plan for work practice placement (Outcome 3)
- ◆ Reflective Journal or Blog from work practice placement (Outcome 4)
- ◆ Feedback from Manager or Supervisor in work practice placement (Outcome 4)
- ◆ Review of Plan
- ◆ Feedback from Tutor

A written report may be supplemented by written/oral questions to ensure all aspects of the Evidence Requirements are fully met.

The assessment for this Unit should be holistic and integrated across the PDA Childhood Practice (SCQF level 9) and the candidate should be encouraged relates knowledge and understanding from other Units into the assessment responses for this Unit.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skill(s) of *Communication*, *Working with Others* and *Problem Solving* in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Candidates who use the Internet to conduct research will also have opportunities to develop skills in *Information and Communications Technology* and *Numeracy* depending on the variety of data gathered and the form in which the data is presented.

Open learning

It may be possible to deliver the Unit by this route and if the Unit is delivered by open learning methods, additional resources will be required for candidate support, assessment and quality assurance.

Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements.

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2011

This publication may be reproduced in whole or in part for educational purposes provided that no profit is derived from reproduction and that, if reproduced in part, the source is acknowledged.

Additional copies of this Unit specification can be purchased from the Scottish Qualifications Authority. Please contact the Business Development and Customer Support team, telephone 0303 333 0330.

General information for candidates

Unit title: Childhood Practice: Leadership and Management (Workplace Practice)

This Unit is designed to allow you to reflect on your own knowledge and understanding of the Benchmark Standards for Childhood Practice based on your own professional leadership and management practice, then to assist you to articulate this into a workplace experience from a different professional service which supports children, young people and their families.

The Unit will provide you with the opportunity to develop and critically reflect on your own professional values and personal commitment, to reflect on your professional knowledge and understanding and your professional skills and abilities.

You will undertake a professional work practice placement in an external service which supports children, young people and their families and then you will critically reflect on the professional values and personal commitment, professional knowledge, understanding, skills and abilities in this service.

Finally you will be able to critically reflect on your own professional leadership and management practice in relation to Childhood Practice across the sector.

You will need to be appropriately employed in and/or have suitable work placement within two professional services for children and young people working within the Childhood Practice standards.

On completion of this Unit you will be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate and critically reflect on own professional values and personal commitment, and professional knowledge and understanding of childhood practice.
- 2 Demonstrate and critically reflect on own professional skills and abilities for leading and managing services for children, young people and their families.
- 3 Research and identify an external service which supports children, young people and their families.
- 4 Undertake a professional work practice placement within an external service which supports children, young people and their families.
- 5 Critically reflect on own professional values and personal commitment, professional knowledge, understanding, skills and abilities within services which support children, young people and their families.
- 6 Critically reflect on own professional leadership and management practice in relation to Childhood Practice.

This is a substantial Unit within the PDA Childhood Practice (SCQF level 9) and as such you can expect that it is comprehensive in covering professional values and personal commitment, knowledge and understanding of childhood practice and professional skills and abilities to lead and manage services for children and young people.

It is intended that you will enhance and develop your capacity for self-direction, planning, communication, and the critical review of your own work to achieve confidence in your professional practice. You can develop transferable skills, abilities and knowledge to allow you to extend professionally across services that support children, young people and their families.

General information for candidates (cont)

Unit title: Childhood Practice: Leadership and Management (Workplace Practice)

You will be expected to exercise autonomy and initiative at a professional level throughout this Unit. You will critically analyse and evaluate your own work and development and be expected to make focussed and specific connections between knowledge and understanding and your professional practice. You will use a range of sources and techniques to make judgements about your progress and development.

You should expect regular one-to-one sessions with your tutor and discussions with your class group to enable you to share experiences about progress, development and evaluation.

Outcomes 1 and 2

You will need to critically reflect on your current leadership and management practice in relation to your own professional values and personal commitment, and professional knowledge and understanding of childhood practice and your professional skills and abilities for leading and managing services for children, young people and their families. You will need to produce three reflective reports.

Outcomes 3 and 4

You will identify a work practice placement in an external and different service to the one where you are employed and/or on placement. This service can cover a wide range of services which support children, young people and their families and should be linked to another Unit from the mandatory option section of the PDA Childhood Practice (SCQF level 9).

You will have the opportunity to meet with the tutor individually to develop your proposal into a plan for your work practice placement. You must get approval from the management of the external service. You will then undertake the work practice placement and keep a reflective journal or blog of the experience.

Outcome 5

You will revisit the reflective reports you wrote for Outcomes 1 and 2 and make additions to them based on your learning experiences in your work practice placement.

Outcome 6

You must produce a reflective essay which pulls together your critical reflections based on work practice placement and their own professional practice within services for children, young people and their families related to childhood practice.