

National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Play in Early Education and Childcare (Intermediate 2)

CODE DM41 11

COURSE Early Education and Childcare (Intermediate 2)

SUMMARY

This Unit allows candidates to develop an understanding of the benefits of a variety of types of play to children aged 0–12 years. The candidate will learn how children benefit from a range of play experiences through planning, setting up and reviewing play experiences, either in a real or simulated context. The candidate does not require to have a work placement to complete this Unit but may benefit from visiting early education and childcare settings which offer high quality child-centred play provision.

This Unit is a mandatory Unit in the Course *Early Education and Childcare (Intermediate 2)*, but is also suitable for candidates wishing to study the Unit on its own. The Unit is suitable for candidates who may be considering employment in the childcare and education sector and who wish to progress to further levels of study in early education and childcare.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the benefits of play experiences for children aged 0–12 years.
- 2 Plan play experiences for children aged 0–12 years.
- 3 In a real or simulated context, implement planned play experiences for children aged 0–12 years.
- 4 Evaluate planned play experiences for children aged 0–12 years.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, candidates would normally be expected to have attained one of the following, or equivalent:

- ◆ the Unit *Play in Early Education and Childcare (Intermediate 1)*
- ◆ a Course or Unit in Care at Intermediate 1

Administrative Information

Superclass: GA

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CREDIT VALUE

1 credit at Intermediate 2 (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 5*).

**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 is no automatic certification of Core Skills in this Unit.

Opportunities for developing aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in *Guidance on Learning and Teaching Approaches for this Unit*.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards

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Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit Specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to the Scottish Qualifications Authority.

OUTCOME 1

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the benefits of play experiences for children aged 0–12 years.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Explain how children aged 0–12 years benefit from play.
- (b) Explain how play supports the individual development of the child.
- (c) Describe the role of the adult in supporting play.

OUTCOME 2

Plan play experiences for children aged 0–12 years.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Each plan briefly describes the aims of the play experience in relation to the care, learning and development of the child.
- (b) The role of the adult in the play experience is clearly described.
- (c) The planned time allocated is appropriate to the experience and age group.
- (d) Each plan takes account of the importance of consulting with others.
- (e) Appropriate resources are described for the play experience.
- (f) Each plan takes account of health and safety considerations.

OUTCOME 3

In a real or simulated context, implement planned play experiences for children aged 0–12 years.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Prepare resources to set up planned play experiences.
- (b) Set up play experiences in accordance with plans and health and safety requirements.
- (c) Participate in play experiences.
- (d) Observe and record the play experiences.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

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OUTCOME 4

Evaluate planned play experiences for children aged 0–12 years.

Performance Criteria

- (a) The planning process is evaluated in terms of meeting the care, learning and development needs of the child.
- (b) The implementation of the planned play experience is evaluated.
- (c) Own contribution to planning and implementing the play experience is evaluated in terms of strengths and areas for improvement.
- (d) Action points for the future are identified in light of feedback.

EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS UNIT

Details of the mandatory content for this Unit can be found in the Appendix at the end of this Unit Specification.

Written/oral evidence is required for this Unit to demonstrate that the candidate has achieved all of the Outcomes and Performance Criteria:

Candidates will be assessed by means of a short case study and a folio.

The case study, with associated questions relating to Outcome 1, will be conducted in controlled supervised conditions within a time limit of 30 minutes. Achievement in this case study may be decided by the use of a cut-off score. The case study will provide evidence that the candidate is able to:

- ◆ describe **at least two** benefits of play for children between the ages of 0–12 years
- ◆ explain **at least two** benefits of play to support the individual development of children between the ages of 0–12 years
- ◆ describe the role of the adult in supporting play

The folio will contain:

- ◆ two plans for play experiences:
 - a plan for one type of play experience for one of the specified age groups within the range 0–12 years as specified in the Appendix to the Statement of Standards
 - a plan for a different type of play experience for a different age group within the range 0–12 years as specified in the Appendix to the Statement of Standards
- ◆ a record of candidate's involvement in two planned play experiences

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

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- ◆ a review of each of the play experiences for the two age groups, in terms of:
 - how effective the planning process was in terms of meeting the development needs of the children
 - how effective the implementation of the play experience was
 - the effectiveness of own contribution to planning and implementing the play experience. This must include strengths and areas for improvement
 - action points for the future, in light of feedback

- ◆ teacher/lecturer comment:
 - the teacher/lecturer must complete a comment sheet covering the candidate's planning, setting up and review of their two play experiences.

The National Assessment Bank item (NAB) for this Unit provides details of the assignments, and a record of personal involvement template. Centres wishing to develop their own assessments should refer to the NAB to ensure a comparable standard.

