



Higher Childcare and Development: project guidance

This guidance document exemplifies how candidates can use the marking grid from the coursework assessment task to support their planning and to help develop their approach to answering each prompt in the project. The sample case study below exemplifies a suitable approach that would give candidates the opportunity to access all marks in each prompt. The responses in the 'suggested answers' columns illustrate how candidates could approach an answer to each prompt in relation to the brief selected and the case study.

Project brief: How can literacy development be supported for children and young people?

Sample case study:

Daniel is 4-years-old. He lives in a small village with a playpark and library. He attends the local nursery and enjoys playing outdoors on the trim-trail. He is part of the local church community and attends Sunday School and Messy Church. His Mum and Dad are both in full-time employment.

All answers must relate to the brief and the child.

Item	Prompt	Max mark	Suggested answers and guidance
A	(i) Explain two aspects of development.	12	Aspect 1 — Physical development • must explain this in relation to Daniel, for example gross motor skill development whilst playing at the local park • must explain physical milestones that a four-year-old would demonstrate Aspect 2 — language development • must explain this in relation to Daniel, for example. ‘has a vocabulary of over 1000 words which is helped by visits to the local library’ • must explain language milestones that a four-year-old would demonstrate
	(ii) Explain the interrelationship between these two aspects of development on the chosen child or young person.		Playing in the local park provides Daniel with exercise by climbing up the climbing frame, therefore developing his gross motor skills using his leg muscles to climb. While he does this, he talks to his friends and develops his language and communication skills.

Item	Prompt	Max mark	Suggested answers and guidance
B	Analyse three factors that influence development.	15	Factor 1 — cultural influence of religion - Positive influence in terms of being part of a community and Daniel attending Sunday school and messy church. Factor 2 — economic influence of income - Both parents are in full-time employment and can therefore afford to buy Daniel toys to play with to promote his fine motor skills, for example small building blocks. They also take him on regular trips to soft play centres where he meets other children and develops his vocabulary through communication. Factor 3 — environmental influence of playparks - Daniel visits the playpark daily where he gets fresh air and can play on the equipment, therefore promoting his gross motor skills and providing physical exercise. - The swings at the playpark are run down and not safe to play on which means Daniel cannot use this to practice his balance and coordination.

Item	Prompt	Max mark	Suggested answers and guidance
C	Explain two theories of development.	10	Theory 1 — Froebel (play theory) • Froebel is a relevant theory because Daniel likes to play outdoors. • Froebel believes that play helps children to develop their understanding of the world and with Daniel having ownership of his play at the local park he can experience this. • Froebel believes that development is holistic therefore when Daniel goes to the park to play with his friends, he is developing his physical and language development. • Froebel believes that children should take risks and Daniel is able to do this when learning to climb the climbing frame safely using his big muscles. • Froebel believes that it is important for children to make choices and the local park allows Daniel to choose the equipment that is safe for him and his friends to play on. Theory 2 — Chomsky (language theory) • Chomsky believed that children were bathed in language. Daniel's parents speak to him regularly at home, for example as they play with him at bath time. • Chomsky believes that language acquisition is strengthened from the interactions around individuals. Daniel is supported with his language development at the local library where he attends story telling sessions using puppets (he can make the voices of the animals as he plays and acts out the scenes). • Chomsky believes that children are born with a language acquisition device (LAD). Daniel can develop his skills in language as he has been exposed from an early age to play-based language activities such as attending Bookbug and Rhymetime at the library.

Item	Prompt	Max mark	Suggested answers and guidance
D	Analyse how the two chosen theories of development in prompt C can be applied to the chosen child or young person.	10	Answers must show positives and negatives of the two theories used in prompt C in relation to Daniel and the brief. Candidates may also include alternative theories to show different viewpoints, but these must relate to Daniel and the brief.

Item	Prompt	Max mark	Suggested answers and guidance
E	Explain two strategies and/or initiatives.	12	Strategy or initiative 1 — ChildSmile • Daniel attends the local nursery that ChildSmile visits to carry out play-based education on tooth brushing, for example using giant teeth and toothbrushes. • ChildSmile is a supervised tooth brushing programme that Daniel takes part in at nursery during games such as racing against the sand-timer to brush his teeth after snack. • ChildSmile apply fluoride varnish to the children in Daniel's nursery. They do this whilst singing songs and using puppets. Further development of the explanation must relate to Daniel and the brief. Strategy or initiative 2 — Bookbug • Bookbug promotes songs and rhymes for children who have attended their local library for play-based singing and reading from an early age. • Bookbug develops early language skills and Daniel enjoys listening to stories and singing songs at the local library. • Bookbug uses action songs and props for play. Daniel likes to interact and copy the actions using his fine motor skills. Further development of the explanation must relate to Daniel and the brief.

Item	Prompt	Max mark	Suggested answers and guidance
F	Explain the ways that two current services may support the chosen child or young person.	10	Service 1 — Education and Nursery • Daniel is in nursery where he participates in play activities. • The local nursery has a large outdoor area with a trim-trail where Daniel can play with his friends. • The local nursery uses planning documents to facilitate learning through play using indicators such as SHANARRI and GIRFEC. This means that Daniel is meeting the benchmarks of a child his age through play-based learning. Any further explanation must relate to Daniel and the brief. Service 2 — Dentistry and ChildSmile • Daniel attends the local nursery that works in partnership with the ChildSmile team who deliver a range of play-based dental care for children. • Dentistry education is important so that Daniel can learn about the importance of oral hygiene by doing play-based activities such as using the big teeth and toothbrushes. • Daniel enjoys learning to brush his teeth independently. The nursery has turned this into a game where Daniel's toothbrush is hidden and he needs to find it after snack time before the timer runs out. ChildSmile have provided Daniel and the nursery with toothbrushes and toothpaste. Any further explanation must relate to Daniel and the brief.

Item	Prompt	Max mark	Suggested answers and guidance
G	Explain the role and responsibilities of two professionals who support the chosen child or young person.	10	Professional 1 — Early years worker • Daniel attends the local nursery and has been assigned a key worker responsible for his development and learning through play. • The key worker's role is to help plan and prepare relevant play activities to challenge Daniel and promote his development. • The key worker will be responsible for recording Daniel's learning in the learning journal to demonstrate how he is learning through play. Any further point of explanation must relate to Daniel and the brief. Professional 2 — ChildSmile practitioner • Daniel attends the local nursery that works with the ChildSmile practitioner to promote good oral health through play. • The role of the ChildSmile practitioner is to teach Daniel how to brush his teeth correctly using play-based opportunities such as giant teeth and toothbrushes. • The role of the ChildSmile practitioner is to provide Daniel with a toothbrush and toothpaste and through play show him how to use them properly. Any further point of explanation must relate to Daniel and the brief.

Item	Prompt	Max mark	Suggested answers and guidance
H	Evaluate the effectiveness of partnership working between the two relevant professionals identified in prompt G who support the chosen child or young person.	6	Partnership working between the early years worker and the ChildSmile practitioner Positive: - Enables both professionals to ensure that Daniel is learning how to brush his teeth correctly and therefore promotes good oral hygiene. Negative: - Due to conflicts in diary availability both professionals can find it hard to schedule regular visits, meaning that there is a delay in Daniel's fluoride varnish being applied.
I	Provide a conclusion about the question posed in the brief.	3	Conclusions must relate to the brief.
J	Present at least five appropriate pieces of referenced information from a variety of sources.	2	Provide references of resources used throughout project. Resources can be referenced throughout the project or provided in a resource list at the end of the project.