

Element 2: Principles, including Rights of the Child and Practitioner Image of the Child

Principles related to Children and their lives in early childhood: Activities A-E

Activity D: Bringing your image of children to life in the curriculum

Activity A looked at how you as an individual view children.

Activity B explored how our beliefs in relation to ability, gender, culture and background might impact on how particular groups of children are viewed and our expectations for them.

Activity C looked at challenges in enabling children to be show their confidence and competence.

The next activity provides an opportunity for you and your colleagues to look at how the whole setting or room can give children more opportunities to show their competence and confidence.







Seeing and enabling children to be confident and competent

As a team, identify three ways you could enable children to show their confidence and competence in your setting. Keep Aistear's themes of Well-being, Identity and Belonging, Communicating and Exploring and Thinking in mind as you do this. For example, supporting children to be more active, have more say in what they do, have more opportunities to do things for themselves, take part in riskier play, challenge their thinking.

Prompts for Reflection

As a team do you support and encourage each other to stand back a little and slow things down to let children's competence and confidence be evident?

Does the curriculum:

- build on children's interests and needs?
- give children choices and respect those choices?
- involve children in decisions that effect them?
- give sufficient time each day for children to get deeply involved in activities and experiences?
- provide a balance between familiarity which helps children to feel secure and novelty and challenge which might arouse a new interest and extend learning?
- provide opportunities for children to be independent and responsible and developing skills like pouring, climbing, mark-making, assessing risk, categorising, sequencing, problem-solving?

Have you spoken to parents about why children need opportunities to be independent, build self-help skills and to be seen as competent and confident?





Three things we will do next week to help babies/toddlers/young children be more confident and competent		
	Person responsible	
2.		
	Person responsible	
3.		
	Person responsible	



