

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

Principles related to Children and their lives in early childhood

Early childhood is a significant and distinct time in life that needs to be valued, respected and nurtured. Each child has his/her own set of experiences and unique life story and is confident and competent. Recognition of the child's individuality, strengths, rights and needs as citizens are central and contribute to a quality early childhood experience where an understanding of equality, rights and responsibilities is promoted.

- Equality (A and S)
- Diversity (A and S)
- Child's uniqueness (A) and Children First (S)
- Children as citizens (A) and Value of early childhood (S)

This set of principles includes the rights of the child and the practitioner image of the child. At the centre of any curriculum is how children are viewed. This shapes how you approach planning for learning opportunities, how you support children's learning and development, how you listen to and involve them (or not) and how the curriculum takes shape within your setting.

Prompts for mentors or facilitators

Able	Fun
Active	Helpful
Ambitious	Independent
Capable	Intelligent
Competent	Kind
Confident	Loving
Curious	Noisy
Creative	Persistent
Developing	Strong
Eager	Unique

Activity A: Describing your view of children

Using the box, describe your view of children. Write down what comes to mind. This activity can be especially useful if done by yourself first before working with a colleague or mentor.

Possible words to describe children

Blank space for writing possible words to describe children.

Create a short statement about your view/image of children using some of the words listed above.

Children are

Blank space for writing a short statement about your view/image of children.