

Identity and Belonging

Aistear describes children's Learning and development using four themes. **Identity and Belonging** is one of these themes.

Aistear's theme of **Identity and Belonging** is about children developing a positive sense of who they are, and feeling valued and respected as part of a family and community. (See pages 25-32 for the full text on **Identity and Belonging**.)

self and group identity



rights and responsibilities



equality and diversity

Learning goals

In partnership with the adult, children will

1. build respectful relationships
2. appreciate features that make a person special
3. understand that they are individuals with their own needs and interests
4. have a sense of 'who they are' and describe their backgrounds and abilities
5. feel valued and see themselves and their interests reflected in the environment
6. express preferences and needs and have these responded to.

relationships

Aim 1
 Children will have **strong self-identities**.

Aim 2
 Children will have a **sense of group identity**.

Learning goals

In partnership with the adult, children will

1. feel that they belong to the group
2. know that members of their family and community are welcomed
3. share experiences of families and cultures
4. take part in routines, customs, festivals, and celebrations
5. see themselves as part of a wider community and know about their local area
6. understand the different roles of people in the community.

Identity and Belonging

Learning goals

In partnership with the adult, children will

1. develop a broad range of abilities and interests
2. show awareness of their strengths and abilities, and share these with others
3. show increasing self-assurance in directing their own learning
4. demonstrate dispositions like curiosity, persistence and responsibility
5. experience learning opportunities linked to personal interests, home and culture
6. be motivated, and recognise their progress and achievements.

Aim 4
 Children will see themselves as **capable learners**.

Aim 3
 Children will have an **understanding of rights**.

Learning goals

In partnership with the adult, children will

1. express their views and help make decisions in matters that affect them
2. understand the rules and boundaries of acceptable behaviour
3. interact, work co-operatively and help others
4. respect others' needs, rights, feelings, culture, language, and religious beliefs
5. have a sense of social justice and deal with unfair behaviour
6. demonstrate co-operation, responsibility, negotiation, and conflict resolution.



co-operation

family and community

interests and preferences

Aistear Toolkit

The online Aistear Toolkit provides a range of resources including video clips, tip sheets, information sheets, and podcasts to help you use *Aistear* in your setting. You can find the Toolkit at

www.ncca.ie/aistear toolkit