

# Aistear

Creatchuraclam na Luath-Óige  
The Early Childhood Curriculum Framework

Aistear is the curriculum framework for all children from birth to six years. It describes Learning and development using four themes.

**Aims (page 44)**  
Children will

- learn about and make sense of the world around them
- develop and use skills and strategies for observing, questioning, investigating, understanding, and problem-solving
- explore ways to represent ideas, feelings, thoughts, objects, and actions through symbols
- have positive attitudes towards learning and develop dispositions like curiosity, playfulness, perseverance, and confidence.



**Aims (page 17)**  
Children will

- be strong psychologically and socially
- be as healthy and fit as they can be
- be creative and spiritual
- have positive outlooks on learning and on life.



**Aims (page 35)**  
Children will

- use non-verbal communication skills
- use language
- broaden their understanding of the world by making sense of experiences through language
- will express themselves creatively and imaginatively.



**Aims (page 26)**  
Children will

- have strong self-identities and will feel respected and affirmed
- have a sense of group identity
- be able to express their rights and show regard for the identity, rights and views of others
- see themselves as capable learners.

Aistear complements and connects with

- The Free Pre-school Year in Early Childhood Care and Education Scheme
- Síolta, The National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education
- The Revised Child Care (Pre-School) Regulations (in particular Article 5)
- The Primary School Curriculum
- Literacy and Numeracy for Learning and Life.

**Aistear Toolkit**

The on-line Aistear Toolkit provides a range of resources including video clips, tip sheets, information leaflets, and podcasts to help you use Aistear in your setting. You can find the Toolkit at [www.ncca.ie/aistear toolkit](http://www.ncca.ie/aistear toolkit).

**NCCA**  
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