



PRACTICE

Adopting holistic, integrated and interconnected approaches

Holistic approaches require intentional thinking about the integration and connectedness of all dimensions of children's learning, development and wellbeing. A holistic, integrated and interconnected approach also requires consideration of the interconnection between the children, the school and community context, and approved frameworks including the *Early Years Learning Framework*, *Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline* and the National Quality Standard.

Reflective Question 1

Early childhood educators understand children's learning is complex, dynamic, and affects many areas of their development. They take a holistic approach by focusing on all aspects of a child's wellbeing and learning, including their physical, personal, social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing, linguistic, and cognitive development. Children may demonstrate strengths in one area and need support in another. Observations and knowledge of children across all developmental domains and learning areas builds a profile to understand their progress in a variety of contexts.

In what ways do you intentionally consider children's domains of development when planning and implementing learning experiences? (physical, personal, social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing, linguistic, and cognitive development)

Reflective Question 2

Best practice in early childhood education acknowledges the diversity of prior knowledge and experiences that children have and uses this to extend their understanding and broaden their interests. Educators embed and integrate new learning into the curiosities or interests, knowledge and experiences already familiar to children.

How do you build on children's funds of knowledge and curiosity, and connect with their identity as confident, capable and creative learners?

Reflective Question 3

Children's knowledge is built through the integration of concepts learned from a variety of interconnected and repeated experiences rather than in discrete learning areas and topics. Skills are developed and strengthened when children are given multiple opportunities to apply them in diverse contexts. Educators support this growth by offering children opportunities to explore ideas and concepts that are meaningful to their lives and connected to their local community.

How do you integrate learning areas (or learning outcomes) and provide children with opportunities to make connections in ways that are meaningful, engaging and relevant?

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