Module Outline

Child Development

Rationale and Purpose of the Module

This module develops students’ understanding of children’s learning and their development, with an emphasis on development for children aged 0 to 8 years. Attention will also be directed towards the pre-natal stages of development. This module aims to explore the cognitive, social and emotional development of children aged 0 to 8 years. Students will engage with relevant theories of learning and the role of the early years’ educator in understanding and promoting positive child development. It will enable students to create a positive learning environment for young children with all children, with a particular focus on children with additional needs. This module aims to equip students with the psychological knowledge to support children’s behaviour and to understand how to create environments, which foster children’s learning and development with particular attention to supporting those who present with atypical/delayed developmental patterns.

Syllabus

This module will examine psychological learning theories and key concepts in understanding the development of children aged 0 to 8 years. Children’s cognitive, social and emotional development of children aged 0-8 years will be explored, with a particular focus on promoting positive child development. The module will also address the psychology of motivation and behaviour in the context of child development. Consideration will be given to the role of play in children’s social, emotional and cognitive development. There will be an emphasis on understanding and supporting cognitive, social and emotional developmental differences in the early years’ setting.
Learning Outcomes

**Cognitive: Knowledge, Comprehension, Application, Analysis, Synthesis, Evaluation**

- Understand and critique psychological theories of learning and development for children aged 0 to 8 years.
- Apply theoretical principles of learning and development in the early years’ setting.
- Describe how to structure the educational environment in order to support behaviour and learning in an inclusive early years setting.
- Evaluate psychological theories in relation to supporting children’s behaviour.

**Affective: Attitude and Values**

- Relate an understanding of child development to practice in the early years’ setting.
- Apply psychological theories to the development of positive relationships with children and families.