

Module Outline

LIN136-138

Promoting Collaborative Practice for Inclusion in Early Childhood Care and Education

Rationale and Purpose of the Module

The purpose of this module is to assist students understanding the theories and concepts underpinning collaborative practice in the early years and to use these theories and concepts to harness action research approaches to achieving collaboration in their own practice. A specific focus is maintained throughout the module on promoting collaborative practice for including children from birth to 8 years in early learning and care (ELC) and school aged childcare (SAC) settings.

Syllabus

Students will explore the specific roles and responsibilities of early childhood teachers in the context of collaborative practice with parents and other professionals in supporting the inclusion of all children in ELC and SAC settings. Students will acquire knowledge of the different agencies and other professionals working with all children from birth to 8, exploring the role and contexts around the support provided to children from birth to 8. Models of reflective practice and principles of family-centered practice will be explored and linked to concepts of inclusion; self-awareness (beliefs, attitudes, values); action research and selecting areas for development in one's own practice regarding collaboration. Students will acquire a range of strategies to develop collaborative early learning and care and school aged childcare practice in addition to understanding the ethics of collaborative practice; problem-solving skills; active listening and documentation.

Learning Outcomes

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

- Demonstrate a theoretical understanding of models of collaborative practice in ELC settings.
- Critically understand the position and nature of collaborative practice in national early childhood curricula and curricula frameworks, with particular emphasis on parental, multidisciplinary and inter-agency collaboration to support the inclusion of all children from birth to 8 years.
- Demonstrate an understanding of ethics in collaborative practice.
- Understand the importance of an action research approach and the role of reflective practice in assessing and developing collaborative practice in ELC and SAC.

Affective: Attitude and Values

- Appreciate the values underpinning family-centred practice.
- Incorporate collaborative practice within the inclusive culture, practice and pedagogy of the ELC setting.