

Child Development and Play

Blended Learning

Starting February 2018

Child Development is a (NFQ) Minor Award (6N1942) offered on a part time, blended learning basis, with a focus on online learning, which will be attractive to learners who are interested in understanding how play supports children's holistic development and want to know more about the development of children's play. What makes this programme unique among child development courses is its emphasis on the role of play in early childhood. We consider both the development of play and the role of play in supporting the child's social, emotional, physical, intellectual, and language development. Attention is played to the role of play in behaviour management and in supporting the child's capacity for self-direction and self-regulation.

Programme Aims

It is the aim of this programme to provide the learner with the knowledge, skills and competence to:

1. Conceptualize how play supports childrens holistic development
2. Explore, understand, and support the child's holistic development in a nurturing play-based environment
3. Develop the skills required to plan, conduct, record and analyse child observations, and the ability to link observed behaviour to relevant theory and apply it to planning appropriate play provision.
4. Promote good practice, equality and respect for diversity in an early childhood care and education setting.
5. Develop each learners capacity for reflective practice

This programme is suitable for those who:

- Wish to further their own knowledge and understanding of what play is and how it supports childrens holistic development and learn more about the influences of the environment on this development.
- Have a strong interest in using play to support children's development;
- Wish to attain a recognized qualification and embark on, or enhance, a professional career in working with children in a range of settings;
- Would like to upskill to enhance employment prospects and/or job satisfaction and promotion opportunities;

This award will also be of interest to all who work with children in care or education settings including childcare staff, teachers, therapists, social workers etc whose professional life brings them into regular contact with children including those deemed to be at-risk or in crisis.

To access this programme learners should have reached the standards of knowledge, skills and competence associated with level 5 on the National Framework of Qualifications. This may have been achieved through a formal qualification or through relevant life and work experiences.

Venue: 8 Cumberland Street, Dunlaoighre, Co Dublin

Cost: €520 (Payment plan options available on request)

Content

Unit 1 – Child Development Theories and Theorists

Unit 2 – Holistic Development and Play

Unit 3 – The Art of Child Observations

Unit 4 – Legislation and Practice Guidelines

Unit 5 – Defining Play

Unit 6 – Play and Playfulness

Unit 7 – Play and Behaviour Management

Unit 8 – Professional Practice

On completion of the programme and the attainment of 15 credits the learner will be awarded a component Certificate in Child Development (6N1942) which is set at level 6 on the National Framework of Qualifications. It is a component of the FETAC Level 6 Major Award in Early Childhood Care and Education (6M2007).

Dates: To facilitate students from diverse locations, this course runs on full days scheduled at weekends. There is also a substantial focus on the online content. 2018 provisional dates are: 10th February, 10th March, 21st April and 20th May. Please note that there may be changes to these dates to suit the learner group. Each learner will also have access to the online component of this course for a three month period.

Applications

Applications are accepted by letter giving details of the applicants name, address, email and phone numbers, educational background, current employment, and reasons for wishing to complete the course. An up to date CV should be included.

Successful applicants may need to be garda vetted prior to completing practical assignments in an early years, education or healthcare setting. Please indicate in application letter if you have already been Garda vetted and if you have access to children in a suitable work (paid or voluntary) setting within which you could complete child observation sessions.

Post letter of application and CV to: Children's Therapy Centre, Slievenagorta, Ballymore, Mullingar, Co Westmeath or email to childrenstherapycentre@gmail.com
Phone: 087 6488149

Fees: Payable directly to bank account (details available on payment plan sheet) or post to above address. Cheques, drafts, PO's payable to Children's Therapy Centre

Local Contact & Facilitator

Anne Brennan is a humanistic and integrative psychotherapist and play therapist involved in private practice, training and supervision. She is active as a trainer in the field of adult education, training people entering the therapeutic field and the fields of human care, especially childcare and special needs. She is also a core trainer on play therapy and psychotherapy courses.

Anne Brennan ables@eircom.net Phone: 087 2210211

EARLY BOOKING IS ADVISED