### PROFICIENT TEACHER EVIDENCE GUIDE: EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACHERS

Teacher Registration Board of the Northern Territory



### Proficient Teacher Evidence Guide: Early Childhood Teachers

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### Introduction

### 1.1 Australian Professional Standards for Teachers

The Australian Professional Standards for Teachers (the Standards) are a public statement of what constitutes quality teaching. The Standards define the work of teachers and make explicit the elements of high-quality, effective teaching in 21st century early childhood services and schools that result in improved educational outcomes for students.

The Standards provide a framework that describes the knowledge, practice and professional engagement required at stages across teachers' careers. They present a common understanding and language for discourse between teachers, employers, teacher educators, teacher organisations, professional associations and the public.

### 1.2 Registration in the NT

Provisional registration is granted if you do not have the prescribed professional experience and currency of practice for full registration, but are otherwise eligible for full registration.

Provisionally registered teachers are an important part of the teaching workforce and bring with them valuable skills and knowledge.

Provisional registration is granted for an initial period of three years and is a period of supported induction, or reintroduction following a career break, into the teaching profession in the Northern Territory.

During this time it is expected that provisionally registered teachers work toward full registration by attaining the requisite professional experience and currency of practice, and the knowledge, skills and experience required against the proficient career stage against the Standards.

There are four circumstances which will determine if you are a provisionally registered teacher. These are:

- You are a graduate teacher/new to the profession
- You have not yet practiced as a qualified teacher
- You are returning to the teaching profession after an absence of five or more years, and
- You have been practicing as a fully registered teacher, but cannot meet the requirements to maintain full registration (for example: part time teacher, relief teacher).

### 1.3 Transitioning from provisional to full registration in the NT

In brief, to apply for full registration, you are required to demonstrate that:

- You have completed 180 days of service as a teacher in a school within a five year period
- You have complied with all conditions on your registration, including the Professional Development condition
- Met all of the eligibility criteria for full registration (including good character check); and
- Demonstrated your proficiency against the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers (the Standards).

NB: the term "school" refers to any educational setting. This includes, but is not limited to: early learning centres, higher education providers and corporate education offices.

It is the provisionally registered teacher's responsibility to lead the process of transitioning to full registration. This process is focused on teacher growth and self-reflection against the Standards, whereby the applicant is supported to further develop effective teaching strategies, which lead to improved student outcomes.

- 1. Determine your eligibility
- 2. Discussion with your Principal
- 3. Learning and Professional Development
- 4. Collection of Evidence
- 5. School Based Panel
- 6. Endorsement
- 7. Submission
- 8. Notification

### 1.4 The purpose of this evidence guide

This Evidence Guide for early childhood teachers provides information about the types of evidence that can demonstrate the Proficient Teacher Standards.

It is intended to assist early childhood teachers to feel confident in using and interpreting the Standards by building a more consistent understanding of the practical application of the Standards.

The guide also provides information about the ways in which teachers may compile and annotate the evidence that will support the development of their portfolio to be presented to the school based panel for assessment.

The standard descriptors for each of the standards have been amended to use terminology that reflects early childhood teaching practice Know students and how they learn

### 1.1

Physical, social and intellectual development and characteristics of students.

Use teaching
strategies based on
knowledge of
students' physical,
social and intellectual
development
and characteristics to
improve student
learning.

Use teaching strategies based on knowledge of children's physical, social and intellectual development and characteristics to improve child

learning.

- Records of children's learning and development including both formative and summative assessment that reflect the five learning outcomes of the EYLF.
- Plans for learning and play experiences that respond to children's diverse learning abilities.
- Plans for learning and play incorporating teaching strategies, principles and practices that specifically address an individual child's learning interests and abilities.
- Records of learning and development that's how an individual child's learning journey.
- Plans for learning and play that include learning opportunities in routines and transitions.
- A cycle of planning that reflects links between what is observed about children's learning and development. This would include analysis based on observations, planning to support learning and development, and evaluation of these plans. Further assessment and follow up that continues the cycle for each child would be evident.
- Critically reflective notes that inform future planning.
- Analysis of the effectiveness of teaching decisions, strategies and approaches to care routines.
- Critical reflection that demonstrates that a variety of teaching strategies are engaged and adaptations are made to enhance children's learning in all domains.

### 1.5 Evidence collection

In order to demonstrate your proficiency against the Standards, you will need to prepare a portfolio containing evidence of your teaching practice that demonstrates your knowledge, practice and engagement at the Proficient career stage.

It is highly recommended that you collect evidence from your daily teaching or other professional activities and <u>embed the evidence collection into your practice</u>. For this to take place successfully, the following should be kept in mind:

- You work collaboratively with a fully registered mentor
- You take supported, professional responsibility for selecting evidence of meeting the Standards during the provisional registration period
- You identify the relationship between evidence items and the standards, and
- You undertake professional learning provided by the Board to assist in your understanding of the above.

Your portfolio must include:

- At least two reports on observed teaching practice by a mentor/experienced teacher/certified teacher/principal or their delegate aligned to the Standards;
- A collection of direct evidence aligned and annotated against the Standards
- A log of your professional development activities, in accordance with the Professional Development Framework, which includes teacher reflection aligned to the Standards

### 1.6 Evidence components

The minimum evidence requirements that must be included in the portfolio submission to the school based panel include:

### **Two Observation Reports**

These observation reports should focus on recording aspects of teaching practice aligned to the Standards. These observations must be conducted by the mentor, certified teacher and/or line manager, and should encourage collaboration between colleagues to help improve teacher practice.

The reports must indicate clearly to the panel how the provisionally registered teacher identified areas for development, how the teacher demonstrated growth against their goals and self-reflection of practice.

The Board encourages the use of the AITSL Classroom Practice Continuum and the Looking at Classroom Practice Guide to assist observers and to guide directions for continued learning and growth.

These resources can be located here: <a href="https://www.aitsl.edu.au/lead-develop/develop-others/classroom-observation/classroom-practice">https://www.aitsl.edu.au/lead-develop/develop-others/classroom-observation/classroom-practice</a>

#### **Professional Development Log**

A log of a teacher's professional development activities, in accordance with the Professional Development Framework must be presented to the panel. This log should include teacher reflections aligned to the Standards, and hours should be indicative of the number of years teaching (approximately 20 hours per year).

A Professional Development Log Template can be found here: <a href="https://www.trb.nt.gov.au/professional-responsibilities/teaching-practice/professional-development-framework">https://www.trb.nt.gov.au/professional-responsibilities/teaching-practice/professional-development-framework</a>

#### **Collection of Direct Evidence**

Direct evidence is collected from a teacher's daily teaching practice or other professional activities that demonstrate the teacher's knowledge, practice and engagement against the Standards. Provisionally registered teachers are encouraged to embed their evidence collection into their practice.

Evidence must be balanced across all seven Standards, using the Standard descriptors to guide the reflections and annotations. Evidence should be current and within the last five years of practice.

Maintaining a holistic view of the Standards when identifying, collecting, annotating and referencing evidence allows for a greater understanding of a teacher's practice to be demonstrated and assessed.

Evidence should be kept for twelve months after attaining full registration for the purposes of the audit process, and can be built upon for registration renewal.

### 1.7 How much evidence?

Your evidence should reflect your achievement of each of the seven Standards by referencing a selection (2–4) of the Standard Descriptors for each Standard (NB: You do not need to provide documentary evidence for every Standard Descriptor).

It is recommended that you submit at least 5–8 pieces of annotated evidence, however this should be discussed with the Panel Chair and in line with the school's expectations.

One quality item can provide evidence for a range of descriptors, provided it conveys sufficient depth and complexity.

In order for your evidence to be credible it should:

- be drawn directly from your work
- come from a range of sources and include evidence of children's learning and observation of your teaching
- show impact on children's learning.

### 1.8 Annotations

The purpose of each annotation is to explain how and why the selected evidence shows that your teaching practice meets the Standard Descriptors.

It will also demonstrate that you have the necessary understanding of practice that is described by the Standard Descriptors.

At a minimum, annotations should identify the 2-4 Standard Descriptors being accounted for, demonstrate how the evidence shows achievement of the Standard Descriptors and identify the impact on children's learning.

#### **Annotations should**

- provide the context for the evidence in order to situate the work such as: what, who, why or when
- identify and explain how the evidence meets the specific Standard Descriptors
- articulate the impact on children's learning relevant to the specific Standard Descriptor/s.

#### How much detail

The annotation should provide sufficient detail so that the evidence can be understood by others outside of the teacher's context.

### **Suggested headings for Annotations**

(you may wish to copy and paste these headings into a word processing application to write your Annotation):

**Evidence** (title of the item):

**Standard Descriptors addressed:** 

Context: Provide the context for the evidence in order to situate the work such as; what, who, why or when

Explain how the evidence demonstrates the Standard Descriptor/s:

### Standard 1: Know students and how they learn

1.1 Physical, social and intellectual development and characteristics of students

1.2 Understand how students learn

1.3 Students with direcerse linguistic, cultural, religious and socioeconomic backgrounds

1.4 Strategies for teaching Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students

1.5 Differentiate teaching to meet the specific learning needs of students across the full range of abilities

1.6 Strategies to support full participation of students with disability

Physical, social and intellectual development and characteristics of students.

Use teaching strategies based on knowledge of students' physical, social and intellectual development and characteristics to improve student learning.

Use teaching strategies based on knowledge of children's physical, social and intellectual development and characteristics to improve child learning.

- Records of children's learning and development including both formative and summative assessment that reflect the five learning outcomes of the EYLF.
- Plans for learning and play experiences that respond to children's diverse learning abilities.
- Plans for learning and play incorporating teaching strategies, principles and practices that specifically address an individual child's learning interests and abilities.
- Records of learning and development that's how an individual child's learning journey.
- Plans for learning and play that include learning opportunities in routines and transitions.
- A cycle of planning that reflects links between what is observed about children's learning and development. This would include analysis based on observations, planning to support learning and development, and evaluation of these plans. Further assessment and follow up that continues the cycle for each child would be evident.
- Critically reflective notes that inform future planning.
- Analysis of the effectiveness of teaching decisions, strategies and approaches to care routines.
- Critical reflection that demonstrates that a variety of teaching strategies are engaged and adaptations are made to enhance children's learning in all domains.

### Understand how students learn

Structure teaching programs using research and collegial advice about how students learn

Structure teaching programs using research and collegial advice about how children learn

- Records of children's learning and development including both formative and summative assessment that reflect the five learning outcomes of the EYLF.
- Plans for learning and play experiences that respond to children's diverse learning abilities.
- Plans for learning and play incorporating teaching strategies, principles and practices that specifically address an individual child's learning interests and abilities.
- Records of learning and development that's how an individual child's learning journey.
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- A cycle of planning that reflects links between what is observed about children's learning and development. This would include analysis based on observations, planning to support learning and development, and evaluation of these plans. Further assessment and follow up that continues the cycle for each child would be evident.
- Critically reflective notes that inform future planning.
- Analysis of the effectiveness of teaching decisions, strategies and approaches to care routines.
- Critical reflection that demonstrates that a variety of teaching strategies are engaged and adaptations are made to enhance children's learning in all domains.

Students with diverse linguistic, cultural, religious and socioeconomic backgrounds

Design and implement teaching strategies that are responsive to the learning strengths and needs of students from diverse linguistic, cultural, religious and socioeconomic backgrounds.

Design and implement teaching strategies that are responsive to the learning strengths and needs of children from diverse linguistic, cultural, religious and socioeconomic backgrounds.

- Records of children's learning and development including both formative and summative assessment that reflect the five learning outcomes of the EYLF.
- Plans for learning and play experiences that respond to children's diverse learning abilities.
- Plans for learning and play incorporating teaching strategies, principles and practices that specifically address an individual child's learning interests and abilities.
- Records of learning and development that's how an individual child's learning journey.
- Plans for learning and play that include learning opportunities in routines and transitions.
- A cycle of planning that reflects links between what is observed about children's learning and development. This would include analysis based on observations, planning to support learning and development, and evaluation of these plans. Further assessment and follow up that continues the cycle for each child would be evident.
- Critically reflective notes that inform future planning.
- Analysis of the effectiveness of teaching decisions, strategies and approaches to care routines.
- Critical reflection that demonstrates that a variety of teaching strategies are engaged and adaptations are made to enhance children's learning in all domains.

### Strategies for teaching Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students

Design and implement effective teaching strategies that are responsive to the local community and cultural setting, linguistic background and histories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students

Design and implement effective teaching strategies that are responsive to the local community and cultural setting, linguistic background and histories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children

- Records of children's learning and development including both formative and summative assessment that reflect the five learning outcomes of the EYLF.
- Plans for learning and play experiences that respond to children's diverse learning abilities.
- Plans for learning and play incorporating teaching strategies, principles and practices that specifically address an individual child's learning interests and abilities.
- Records of learning and development that's how an individual child's learning journey.
- Plans for learning and play that include learning opportunities in routines and transitions.
- A cycle of planning that reflects links between what is observed about children's learning and development. This would include analysis based on observations, planning to support learning and development, and evaluation of these plans. Further assessment and follow up that continues the cycle for each child would be evident.
- Critically reflective notes that inform future planning.
- Analysis of the effectiveness of teaching decisions, strategies and approaches to care routines.
- Critical reflection that demonstrates that a variety of teaching strategies are engaged and adaptations are made to enhance children's learning in all domains.

Differentiate teaching to meet the specific learning needs of students across the full range of abilities

Develop teaching activities that incorporate differentiated straegies to meet the specific learning needs of students across the full range of abilities

Develop learning experiences including routines and transitions that incorporate differentiated strategies to meet the specific learning needs of children across the full range of abilities

- Plans for learning and play reflecting strategies and resources that link to the outcomes of the EYLF and meet the individual needs and strengths of children across the full range of abilities.
- Intentional teaching decisions and care routines that respond to the specific learning and development needs of children across the full range of abilities.
- Learning experiences that support specific learning needs that have been developed as a result of collaborative planning or consultation with other professionals or specialist staff from relevant agencies, for example, speech therapists, occupational therapists and/or psychologists.
- Selection and critical reflection on the use of a variety of resources that address and support different learning needs.
- Collaborative planning with children including children's reflection of their own learning and input into the program.
- Input from families in developing learning experiences and assessment of children's learning.
- Plans for learning that include routines and transition times that respond to individual children's abilities, rhythms and sleep patterns.

### Strategies to support full participation of students with disability

Design and implement teaching activities that support the participation and learning of students with disability and address relevant policy and legislative requirements

Design and implement teaching activities that support the participation and learning of children with disability and address relevant policy and legislative requirements

- Programs for learning and play that incorporate specific strategies to support the
  participation of children with a range of abilities in accordance with policy and
  legislative requirements.
- Individual Learning Plans developed for children with disability.
- Demonstrated use of appropriate resources and adaptive and assistive technologies to support participation and learning of individual children with disability.
- Notes of meetings with families, specialists, support teams and services that assist the design and implementation of play and learning programs.
- Evidence that the program reflects the legislation, setting's policy and best practice guidelines in relation to children with disabilities e.g. critical reflection within the program/records of conversations with families, individual evaluation of children's learning.
- Evidence that teacher's participation in professional learning has enhanced understandings of inclusive practice.

### Standard 2: Know the content and how to teach it.

2.1 Content and teaching strategies of the teaching area

2.2 Content selection and organisation

2.3 Curriculum, assessment and reporting

2.4 Understand and respect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to promite reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians

2.5 Literacy and numeracy stratgies

2.6 Information and Communication technology (ICT)

## 2.1 Content and teaching strategies of the teaching area

Apply knowledge of the content and teaching strategies of the teaching area to develop engaging activities

Apply knowledge of the content and teaching strategies of the teaching area to develop engaging activities

- Plans for learning and play that include a variety of teaching and learning strategies to scaffold and extend children's learning.
- Plans for learning and play where holistic learning across a range of content areas is evident.
- Plans for learning and play that contain specific reference to content such as language and literacy, mathematics, science concepts, creativity and the arts, physical activity.
- Integration of content knowledge and conceptual learning in play based experiences.
- Plans for learning and play that include resources designed to scaffold children's higher order thinking and problem solving.
- Critical reflection of teaching that demonstrates teacher knowledge of content and includes children's thoughts, questions and suggestions.
- Meeting notes demonstrating the teacher's contribution to collegial planning and preparation of content rich learning experiences.
- Evidence of extended investigations or projects where holistic learning across a range of content areas is evident.
- Plans for learning and play that extend thinking and problem solving with infants and toddlers.

## 2.2 Content selection and organisation

Organise
content into
coherent, wellsequences
learning and
teaching
programs

Organise
content into
coherent, wellsequences
learning and
teaching
programs

- Plans for learning and play that reflect the holistic nature of young children's learning and show how learning across all learning outcomes can occur simultaneously.
- Cycle of planning that shows intentional teaching decisions to support the progression of children's learning.
- Planning and resourcing that encourages children and teachers to develop connected experiences and build continuity of learning over a period of time – e.g. children can re-visit play later that day, at a later date or over a period of days or weeks without having to pack away and start fresh each time.
- Teacher research to support rich and meaningful curriculum content that is based on children's current knowledge, ideas, culture, abilities and interests.
- Meeting minutes or reflective notes that include analysis and critical reflection of the content of learning experiences including suggestions made by children.
- Plans for learning and play that contain specific reference to content such as language and literacy, mathematics, science concepts, creativity and the arts, physical activity that are designed to engage the children in holistic learning.
- Evidence of extended investigations or projects where holistic learning across a range of content areas is evident.
- Annotated examples of pedagogical documentation where progression of children's thinking and theorising is evident.
- Annotated examples of children's representations of their learning, individual child observations and assessments and other evidence that show what and how children are learning and developing.

### 2.3 Curriculum, assessment and reporting

Design and implement learning and teaching programs using knowledge of curriculum, assessment and reporting requirements

Design and implement learning and teaching programs using knowledge of curriculum, assessment and reporting requirements

- Plans for learning and play demonstrate links between observation, planning and evaluation/ assessment.
- Plans for learning and play that reflect the outcomes of the EYLF.
- Rich and meaningful curriculum content that is based on children's current knowledge, ideas, culture, abilities and interests.
- Teacher initiated curriculum content that introduces important new knowledge and/or skills for children.
- Critical reflection showing teaching decisions based on the cycle of planning.
- A range of observations and formative/summative assessments of children's learning are used as the basis for future planning.
- Communication with families regarding their child's development and learning to inform learning interests and curriculum decisions.
- Reflective notes or communication to families articulating the teacher's approaches to learning and their teaching philosophy.
- Analytic summaries or transition to school statements that provide an overview of children's learning and development for families.
- Teacher's participation in professional learning to deepen understanding of the planning cycle.

2.4 Understand and respect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to promote reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians

Provide
opportunities for
students to develop
understanding of
and respect for
Aboriginal and
Torres Strait
islander histories,
cultures and
languages

Provide opportunities for children to develop understanding of and respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander histories, cultures and languages

- Consultation with and evidence of having sought advice, assistance and guidance from persons such as colleagues, Elders, representatives or members of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and other relevant professionals.
- Teacher's participation in professional learning aimed at enhancing cultural competence and deeper understandings of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures, languages and traditions.
- Plans for learning and play and/or excursions and incursions that aim to develop understanding of and respect for the inclusion of contemporary perspectives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.
- Program reflections/records of learning where the aim of the experience was to develop the children's understanding of and respect for the histories, cultures, languages and/or traditions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- Annotated examples of children's representations of their learning which show children's growing awareness of and engagement in experiences with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives.
- Teacher led discussion with colleagues designed to develop engagement and inclusion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives in learning and play.
- Provision of materials for learning and play that sensitively reflect contemporary perspectives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.
- Conversations with children and observance of significant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander traditions and events that draw children's attention to and awareness of reconciliation.
- Teacher participation or contribution to reconciliation events, professional learning or development of setting based Reconciliation Action Plans or statements.

# 2.5 Literacy and numeracy strategies

Apply knowledge and understanding of effective teaching strategies to support students literacy and numeracy achievement Apply knowledge and understanding of effective teaching strategies to support childrens literacy and numeracy achievement

- Plans for learning and play that encourage children to be effective communicators in a range of ways.
- Plans for learning and play that reflect diverse abilities and are inclusive of all communication styles e.g. signing, visual aids, non-verbal communication, and braille.
- Plans for learning and play that promote maintenance of children's home languages.
- Plans for learning and play that include experiences with everyday numeracy use and expose children to relevant mathematical vocabulary and concepts.
- Plans for learning and play that include play based experiences with everyday language and literacy concepts and expose children to increasingly complex vocabulary and language structures.
- Documentation of children's learning that shows how the teacher has responded to or extended children's engagement in literacy and or numeracy concepts.
- Individual observation records and assessments that show progression of learning in literacy and numeracy.
- Plans for learning and play that support multi-lingual understandings and appreciation for a range of home languages.

# 2.6 Information and communication technology

Use effective teaching strategies to integrate ICT into learning and teaching programs to make selected content relevant and meaningful

Use effective teaching strategies to integrate ICT into learning and teaching programs to make selected content relevant and meaningful

- Plans for learning and play that encourage children to be effective communicators in a range of ways.
- Plans for learning and play that reflect diverse abilities and are inclusive of all communication styles – e.g. signing, visual aids, non-verbal communication, and braille.
- Plans for learning and play that promote maintenance of children's home languages.
- Plans for learning and play that include experiences with everyday numeracy use and expose children to relevant mathematical vocabulary and concepts.
- Plans for learning and play that include play based experiences with everyday language and literacy concepts and expose children to increasingly complex vocabulary and language structures.
- Documentation of children's learning that shows how the teacher has responded to or extended children's engagement in literacy and or numeracy concepts.
- Individual observation records and assessments that show progression of learning in literacy and numeracy.
- Plans for learning and play that support multi-lingual understandings and appreciation for a range of home languages.

### Standard 3: Plan and implement effective teaching and learning

3.1 Establish challenging learning goals

3.2 Plan, structure and sequence learning programs

3.3 Use teaching strategies

3.4 Select and use resources

3.5 Use effective classroom communication

3.6 Evaluate and improve teaching programs

## 3.1 Establish challenging learning goals

Set explicit, challenging and achieveable learning goals for all students

Set explicit, challenging and achieveable learning goals for all children

- Plans for learning and play that articulate explicit, challenging and achievable learning goals for all children as part of the planning cycle and linked to the learning outcomes of the EYLF.
- Records of learning that show how children's current knowledge, ideas, culture, abilities and interests have been used to extend learning and play.
- Individual assessment records both formative and summative that show children's progression of learning.
- Records of discussions or meetings that outline the development of Individual Learning Plans (ILP) for children through collaboration with support staff, colleagues, other professionals and families.
- Short term and long term planning for all children's current and future learning linked to the EYLF.
- Critical reflection of the effectiveness of learning opportunities, environment and experiences linked to the EYLF outcomes.
- Teacher lead discussion about long-term goals for learning may include teachers' contributions to the Quality Improvement Plan (QIP).
- Collaboration with families or other specialists in developing learning goals and strategies for children with diverse learning abilities.

### 3.2 Plan, structure and sequence learning programs

Plan and implement well-structured learning and teaching programs or lesson sequences that engage students and promote learning

Plan and implement well-structured learning and teaching programs or lesson sequences that engage children and promote learning

- Plans for learning and play that show evidence of the planning cycle and respond to children's current knowledge, ideas, culture, abilities and interests.
- Plans for learning and play that show evidence of how intentional teaching decisions and care routines are adapted to suit children's interests and engagement.
- Plans for learning and play that extend children's thinking, promote problem-solving and higher order thinking.
- Critical reflection that shows how children have responded to intentional teaching decisions to engage them in learning and play.
- Annotated examples of children's representations of learning and contributions to discussions about their learning.
- Meeting minutes or notes where the teacher has led discussions about the development of ideas for curriculum content including transitions and routines.
- Annotated examples of pedagogical documentation or group projects that demonstrate shared learning experiences that contribute to higher order thinking.
- Plans for learning and play that incorporate intentional teaching strategies to engage children in sustained shared thinking.

## 3.3 Use teaching strategies

Select and use relevant teaching strategies to develop knowledge, skills, problem solving and critical and creative thinking

Select and use relevant teaching strategies to develop knowledge, skills, problem solving and critical and creative thinking

- Plans for learning and play show a variety of teaching and learning strategies (including those that involve children in problem solving, critical and creative thinking) that link to EYLF learning outcomes.
- Plans for learning and play, which show the selection and use of appropriate ICT, based strategies to develop knowledge, skills, problem solving and critical and creative thinking.
- Critical reflection relating to teaching decisions and pedagogies.
- Minutes of team meetings or notes of conversations led by the teacher about effectiveness of teaching strategies.
- Peer/mentor feedback provided through performance appraisal relating to teaching strategies.
- Careful selection of resources and provisions in the environment to encourage problem solving, critical and creative thinking.
- Records of learning that demonstrate the teacher designing and using effective questioning and/or discussion techniques to support sustained shared thinking.
- Records of learning that show intentional inclusion of content to engage children in higher order thinking, problem solving, and critical and creative thinking.
- Care routines include plans for learning and strategies to support increasing autonomy and independence.

### 3.4 Select and use resources

Select and/or create and use a range of resources, including ICT, to engage students in their learning Select and/or create and use a range of resources, including ICT, to engage children in their learning

- Critical reflection that shows that the teacher has introduced a variety of resources to support the development of engaging learning opportunities for children.
- Plans for learning and play that demonstrate the teacher's selection of resources including ICT, to engage children in meaningful learning across a wide range of experiences.
- Critical reflection and discussions relating to the use of ICT resources with young children.
- Critical conversations with families and other professionals that inform the use of ICT in the program meeting notes, newsletters etc.
- Teacher's contributions to the Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) that shows intentions for developing the learning environment.
- The environment provides for a broad range of resources that enable children to make choices in learning and play.
- The teacher provides rich learning opportunities in both the indoor and outdoor environments.
- Annotated examples of children's representations of their leaning that show engagement with a range of interesting and engaging resources.

### 3.5 Use effective classroom communication

Use effective verbal and non-verbal communication strategies to support student understanding, participation, engagement and achievement

Use effective verbal and non-verbal communication strategies to support children's understanding, participation, engagement and learning

- Peer/mentor feedback from performance appraisal relating to teachers use of verbal and non-verbal communication with children.
- Critical reflection relating to use of verbal and non-verbal communication in responding positively and inclusively to all children may include augmentative communication, signing and visuals.
- The teacher models grammatically acceptable and precise language.
- Records of learning that show evidence of the teacher using effective questioning and/or discussion techniques to support sustained shared thinking.
- Plans for learning and play that show specific strategies to support children's emerging verbal and non-verbal literacy skills.
- Teacher uses a range of communication strategies to engage children in care routines and transitions.
- Plans for learning and play that show intentional teaching decisions and the inclusion of explicit strategies for introducing new and relevant vocabulary, suited to the age, interests and abilities of the children.
- Records of learning that demonstrate the strategies used to accommodate children's emerging literacy and numeracy skills.
- The teacher uses a range of strategies to engage children and maintain their interest.
- Critical reflection on the teacher's communication strategies and adaptations made to accommodate a range of ages and learning styles.

### 3.6 Evaluate and improve teaching programs

Evaluate personal teaching and learning programs using evidence, including feedback from students and student assessment data, to inform planning

Evaluate personal teaching and learning programs using evidence, including feedback from children and child assessment data, to inform planning

- Plans for learning and play that include adaptations or adjustments based on evaluation of feedback from children, families, colleagues and assessment records.
- Records of meetings with peers/mentor to reflect on teaching, planning and children's learning.
- Critical reflection includes feedback from children and families that informs future plans for learning and play.
- Teacher led collaborative consultation where feedback informs future plans.
- Critical reflection of children's learning and development, both as individuals and in groups which shows links to teaching decisions.
- Practitioner inquiry or teacher research projects that use child observations and assessment as a strategy for reflecting on practice.

# 3.7 Engage parents/carers in the educative process

Plan for appropriate and contextually relevant opportunities for parents/carers to be involved in their children's learning

Plan for appropriate and contextually relevant opportunities for families to be involved in their children's learning

- Relevant program documentation demonstrates how families' skills, knowledge and expertise have been used in accordance with service policies to enhance teaching and learning experiences.
- Emails, newsletters and other records of communications between the teacher and families to encourage involvement in service activities, decisions, experiences and programs.
- Samples of two-way communication between the teacher and families, including opportunities for feedback on children's learning, parent meetings, surveys.
- Samples of input by families e.g. suggestions, informal conversations about their child's interests, contribution to documentation or learning stories, supply of resources or expertise to support the learning program.
- Documentation of the teacher's involvement in a range of family participation events – e.g. parent meetings, social events, information events, open days and orientation visits.
- Records of participation in and preparation for teacher meetings with families.

### Standard 4: Create and maintain supportive and safe learning environments

4.1 Support student participation

4.2 manage classroom activities

4.3 Manage challenging behaviour

4.4 Maintain student safety

4.5 Use ICT safely, responsibly and ethically

## 4.1 Support student participation

Establish and implement inclusive and positive interactions to engage and support all students in classroom activities

Establish and implement inclusive and postive interactions to engage and support all children in early learning experiences

- Critical reflective notes or meeting minutes about changes to the environment, learning context or communication strategies to support children's engagement in learning and play experiences.
- Plans for learning and play that include the teacher's intentional strategies for promoting in children respect for others, working together, resolving differences and acknowledging the rights of self and others.
- Individual child records that document decisions to respond to individual differences in communication.
- Plans for learning and play that include specific reference to strategies for guiding children's behaviour.
- Documented guidance of child's behaviour including implementation of an individual behaviour support plan as required.
- Plans for learning and play that incorporate and are reflective of children's prior experiences and learning needs.
- Children's involvement in the development of expectations for behaviour and resolution of conflicts.
- Teacher's engagement with families to develop shared and consistent approaches to expectations for learning and play.
- Adaptations to the environment to assist full participation of children in learning and play.
- Minutes of meetings and discussion led by the teacher to support positive interactions with all children

### 4.2 Manage classroom activities

Establish and maintain orderly and workable routines to create an environment where student time is spent on learning tasks

Establish and maintin orderly and workable routines to create an evironment where child time is spent on playing and learning

- Daily program overview that shows evidence of balance and choice of learning opportunities including routines, transitions, small and large groups and opportunities for individual experiences.
- Plans for learning and play that show choices available for children and a balance of opportunities for child-led and teacher-led play and learning.
- Meeting minutes or notes of conversations led by the teacher where decisions about the routine or environment have been discussed and changes made.
- Plans for routines that demonstrate a balance of teacher guided and independent engagement.
- Organisation of the day and resources that allows for large blocks of time for children to engage deeply in investigations and to re-visit or extend on their play and learning.
- Transitions are smooth and designed to reduce waiting time and congestion.
- Spontaneous learning experiences or learning through routines where the teacher responds to the children's cues.
- Individually negotiated caregiving routines for infants and toddlers.
- Examples of teacher developed strategies/methods used to communicate routines with children e.g. posters, visual supports etc.

## 4.3 Manage challenging behaviour

Manage challenging behaviour by establishing and negotiating clear expectations with students and addressing discipline issues promptly, fairly and respectfully

Manage challenging behaviour by establishing and negotiating clear expectations with children and address behaviour issues promptly, fairly and respectfully

- Plans for learning and play that reflect the setting's policies in relation to behaviour guidance.
- Documents such as emails, letters or notes from conversations and meetings that show how the teacher follows up on agreed actions with individual children.
- Plans for learning and play that include discussion with children about expectations for fair and respectful behaviour.
- Records of learning that include reflection on behaviour guidance strategies.
- Peer or mentor feedback from performance appraisal in relation to guiding children's behaviour.
- Documents that show the teacher's development of resources to help children understand and work with the behaviour expectations for the setting.
- Behaviour guidance approaches developed in consultation with other educators and professionals.
- Documents that show family involvement/ consultation/feedback that focus on collaborative behaviour strategies.
- Children's involvement in the development of expectations for behaviour and resolution of conflicts.
- Critical reflection relating to ongoing plans and strategies for behaviour guidance.
- Teacher research and/or participation in professional learning about behaviour guidance.
- Communication with families relating to behaviour guidance e.g. newsletter developed by the teacher, organisation of information sessions for families etc.
- Individual learning plans with input from family and child.
- Engagement with outside agencies or other professionals with knowledge of specific behaviour issues and strategies.
- Intentional strategies to plan or adapt the environment to support positive behaviour and engagement in learning and play.

# 4.4 Maintain student safety

Ensure students'
wellbeing and
safety within
school by
implementing
school and/or
system, curriculum
and legislative
requirements

Ensure children's wellbeing and safety within a service by implementing service and/or system curriculum and legislative requirements

- Understanding of and participation in professional learning relating to regulations, NQF, service policies and procedures, child protection and work health and safety.
- Documentation to show recognition of risk assessments for individual children and referrals where relevant.
- Evaluations of safety procedures that are led by the teacher and practices with children to ensure children's knowledge of an experience of the settings safety procedures e.g. emergency evaluations, lock down, etc.
- Teachers' participation in and review of safety and hazard checklists and risk management planning.
- Excursion plans and risk assessments formulated by the teacher.
- Teacher's involvement in active discussions and evidence of staff meeting participation which demonstrates knowledge and awareness of WHS and child protection, as they relate to the group and to individual children.
- Participation in and implementation of setting-based policy and procedures for reporting accidents and injuries to families.
- Contextual knowledge of serious incident notification procedures and protocols.

### 4.5 Use ICT safely, responsibly and ethically

Incorporate strategies to promote the safe, responsibile and ethical use of ICT in learning and teaching

Incorporate strategies to promote the safe, responsible and ethical use of ICT in learning and teaching

- Plans for learning and play which show explicit strategies to promote safe, responsible and ethical use of ICT in play and learning.
- Children are provided with opportunities to engage in the meaningful use of a range of technologies.
- Records of learning that incorporate children's interests and the use of technology to promote learning.
- Critical Reflection/meeting minutes relating to discussion on the purpose of ICT in early learning environment.
- Monitoring ICT use to ensure it is safe and purposeful.
- Reflection on the appropriate use of apps and ICT with young children that is age appropriate, open ended and safe.
- Newsletters/guidance for families on the use of media for young children based on current research.
- Teacher promotes children's involvement in the development of guidelines for equitable and appropriate use of technology.
- Teacher consults with specialists to consider technologies to support children with diverse learning needs.

### Standard 5: Assess, provide feedback and report on student learning

5.1 Assess student learning

5.2 Provide feedback to students on their learning 5.3 Make consistent and comparable judgements

5.4 Interpret student data

5.5 Report on student achievement

## 5.1 Assess student learning

Develop, select and use informal and formal, diagnostic, formative and summative assessment strategies to assess student learning

Develop, select and use informal and formal, diagnostic, formative and summative assessment strategies to assess child learning

- Plans for learning and play reflect the teacher's observation of children's interests, abilities and assessment of their learning and development progress.
- Reflective notes that show how plans for assessment have a clear purpose and are regularly reviewed.
- Formative assessments such as analysed observations, jottings, learning stories or examples of children's representations of their learning.
- Records of learning demonstrate the teacher's analysis that reflects contemporary theories and links to the learning outcomes of the EYLF.
- Family input or contribution to the teacher's understanding of the child.
- A range of assessment approaches that show the child's progress towards goals and learning outcomes.
- Summative assessments where the teacher analyses the child's strengths and learning needs e.g. analytic summary, transition to school statement.
- Pedagogical documentation that includes analysis and assessment of children's learning.
- Child's input to evaluating and assessing their own achievements and challenges
- Learning Stories that include analysis and assessment of children's learning
- Records of using assessment data from professionals such as speech therapists, occupational therapists and psychologists in planning for children's learning.

### 5.2 Provide feedback to students on their learning

Provide timely,
effective
feedback to
students about
their
achievement
relative to their
learning goals

Provide timely,
effective
feedback to
children about
their
achievement
relative to their
learning goals

- Observation records and examples of formative and summative assessment that are available for children and families to share and discuss.
- Intentional teaching strategies that incorporate feedback and reflection with children about their learning.
- Conversations where children are engaged in dialogue about their ongoing progress and development at a particular learning experience or task.
- Children's responses to feedback trying again, developing the idea, showing another child, etc
- Intentional teaching strategies including open ended questioning, providing feedback, challenging thinking and guiding children's learning to facilitate sustained, shared thinking
- Summative and formative assessments where children and/or families have contributed to reflecting on their own learning.
- Individual learning plans for children that are informed by children, families and teachers
- Spontaneous conversations and narration of what and how infants and toddlers are learning.

# 5.3 Make consistent and comparable judgements

Understand and participate in assessment moderation activities to support consistent and comparable judgements of student learning

Understand and particiapte in assessment moderation activties to support consistent and comparable judgements of child learning

- Plans for learning and play are individualised for children to address specific issues identified by observation, family feedback, children's records
- Individual child records that are shared with other educators and/or families to support consistent strategies for learning and development.
- Pedagogical Documentation as evidence of children's collaborative learning and multiple perspectives of educators working with those children.
- Formative and summative assessment records that inform future teaching decisions.
- Assessment of children's abilities and engagement in experiences used to develop future learning goals.
- Reflective notes that show how plans for assessment have a clear purpose and are regularly reviewed to ensure relevance for children and families and to inform their teaching approaches and curriculum decisions.
- Minutes of meetings where the teacher has led discussions relating to child assessments and implications for future teaching plans.
- Notes from meetings with families where assessments are used as a basis for collaborative plans for a child's future learning and development.
- Records of learning are linked to and demonstrate interpretation of theories of learning and development.
- Examples of child input into assessment of their learning and development

### 5.4 Interpret student data

Use student
assessment data to
analyse and
evaluate student
understanding of
subject/content,
identifying
interventions and
modifying teaching
practice

Use child assessment data to analyse and evaluate child understanding of subject/content, identifying interventions and modifying teaching practice

- Plans for learning and play demonstrate the planning cycle and identify individual child's learning goals
- Plans for learning and play are analysed, draw on current theory and literature to demonstrate modifications for individuals and/or groups as a result of child observation.
- Intentional teaching strategies for individuals or groups of children informed by observation and assessment identify children's strengths, interests and areas of need.
- Records of meetings with other educators regarding a child's progress towards learning outcomes.
- Formative and summative assessments that have informed teaching decisions.
- Individual Education Plans (IEP)/Educational Adjustment Plans (EAP) with progress notes.
- Records of learning that include reflection on planned experiences and child engagement.
- Evidence of discussions with families regarding children's abilities and referrals to intervention and support services.
- Individual summative assessments that identify a child's strengths, interests and ongoing plans and goals reflecting the learning outcomes of the EYLF e.g. Transition to School Statement or analytic summary

### 5.5 Report on student achievement

Report clearly, accurately and respectfully to students and parents/carers about student achievement, making use of accurate and reliable records

Report clearly, accurately and respectfully to families about their child's achievement, making use of accurate and reliable records

- Clear reliable and respectful child records that are shared with families.
- Notes from meetings held to discuss a child's progress with families or other professionals in accordance with service policy and practice
- Communication with families demonstrating regular liaison regarding a child's learning and development.
- Preparation for family meetings showing reliable and respectful summative assessments of a child's strengths, needs and interests to identify future learning goals.
- Children's formative and summative assessment are analysed and demonstrate the teachers understanding of relevant pedagogies and theories of learning and development.
- Feedback from families is implemented in program and plans.
- Clear reliable and respectful summative assessments, analytic summaries and/or transition to school statement.

### Standard 6: Engage in Professional Learning

6.1 Identify and plan professional learning needs

6.2 Engage in professional learning and improve practice

6.3 Engage with colleagues and improve practice

6.4 Apply professional learning and improve student learning

### 6.1 Identify and plan profesisonal learning needs

Use the Australian
Professional
Standards for
Teachers and
advice from
colleagues to
identify and plan
profesisonal
learning needs

Use the Australian
Professional
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learning needs

- Meeting records with supervisor and/or colleagues regarding performance review/ appraisal that reflect the APST.
- Professional learning plan that is linked to Descriptors from the APST, NQS and EYLF
- Record of engagement in professional learning activities that relate to the APST (for example, listening to and learning from colleagues, professional reading, working with or as a mentor or coach, undertaking post-graduate study, participating in service based professional learning projects.
- Engagement with the standards is documented and reflected on with input from colleagues
- Critical reflection on practice as it relates to the APST and/or evidence of engagement in professional dialogue with colleagues, professional teaching blogs or communities of practice.

# 6.2 Engage in profesisonal learning and improve practice

Participate in learning to update knowledge and practice, targeted to profesisonal needs and school and/or system priorities Participate in learning to update knowledge and practice, targeted to professional needs and service and/or system priorities

- Participation in professional learning activities to update knowledge and practice (including online professional learning opportunities, such as courses, blogs and webinars), targeted to early childhood services and sector priorities.
- Professional Learning Logs that contains self-analysis and reflection that informs professional learning needs and service priorities.
- Reflective notes from group discussion of professional reading.
- Annotated articles or professional reading logs with implementation notes for service practice
- Engagement in performance planning and professional development.
- Participation in targeted professional development, implementation of knowledge and understanding to improve teaching practice.
- Participation in and application of an induction process.
- Teachers contribution to development of QIP in relation to their professional development.

### 6.3 Engage with colleagues and improve practice

Contribute to colleagial discussions and apply constructive feedback from colleagues to improve professional knowledge and practice

Contribute to colleagial discussions and apply constructive feedback from colleagues to improve professional knowledge and practice

- Documented reflection on practice arising from professional discussions with colleagues, including other professionals with specialist knowledge that can build the teachers capacity to work effectively with children.
- Minutes of professional team meetings of which the teacher is an active participant, detailing evaluation and reflection on professional knowledge and practice
- Participation in online or face to face discussions which shows the teacher's participation with colleagues.
- Feedback from supervisor/educational leader in constructive discussion around professional practice and knowledge.
- Use of a reflective journal or similar process where feedback is considered and goals established.
- Engaging other educators in critical conversations and/or Practitioner Inquiry Projects to better understand professional challenges and improve practice.
- Participation in performance review/appraisal which contributes to improvements in professional knowledge and practice.
- Involvement in communities of practice or learning circles focussed on teaching practice.

### 6.4 Apply professional learning and improve student learning

Undertake professional learning programs designed to address identified student learning needs Undertake professional learning programs designed to address identified child learning needs

- Reflection on child learning and assessment data and identification of teacher's strengths and needs that informs the choice of professional learning to be sourced and undertaken.
- Professional Learning Plan which shows a range of professional learning activities that are based on identified professional challenges to address children's learning.
- Professional reading log showing reading and reflection undertaken which addresses identified professional challenges/interests.
- Sharing new understandings with colleagues to support children's learning development of resources, information sharing following attendance at conference of professional learning session.
- Meeting notes/plans developed in collaboration with external professional agencies that have enhanced the teachers understanding and support of individual children with diverse needs.
- Inviting experts and professionals to inform teaching practice.
- Application of new understandings through engagement in professional learning reflective journal etc.
- Establishing relationships and engage with outside agencies who can support professional learning.
- Professional journal entries identifying own areas of strengths and emerging skills linked to program content/curriculum areas that they wish to extend through their professional learning.

### Standard 7: Engage professionally with colleagues, parents/carers and the community

7.1 Meet professional ethics and responsibilities

7.2 Comply with legislative, administrative and organisational requirements

7.3 Engage with parents/carers

7.4 Engage with professional teacging networks and broader communities

# 7.1 Meet professional ethics and responsibilities

Meet codes of ethics and conduct established by regulatory authorities, systems and schools Meet codes of ethics and conduct established by regulatory authorities, systems and services

- Communication with families/permissions that outline ethical practice relating to privacy provisions of children's images and work samples.
- Reference or endorsement from principal/employer/ director/management.
- Meeting records, emails and other communications which show an understanding of mandatory reporting requirements.
- Annotated examples of reflection on ECA Code of Ethics meeting minutes, notes
  of conversations with other educators.
- Examples of communications with families, other educators and children about ethical issues notes from discussions with families, newsletter contributions, displays, interaction with children's families and colleagues.
- Feedback and observations from mentor/supervisor
- Examples of initiating conversations about ethical practice with other educators meeting notes, shared readings etc
- The teacher reflects on and has input into review of centre policies regarding ethics and conduct such as confidentiality and relationships with families, children and colleagues

7.2 Comply with legislative, administrative and organisation requirements

Understand the implications of and comply with relative legislative, administrative, organisational and professional requirements, policies and processes

Understand the implications of and comply with relative legislative, administrative, organisational and professional requirements, policies and processes

- Documentation demonstrating compliance with relevant legislative, administrative, organisational and professional requirements
- Meeting records and other communications which show an understanding of mandatory reporting requirements
- Engagement in relevant training or refresher courses relating to mandated professional requirements – e.g. Child Protection, Keep Them Safe, Mandatory Reporter Guide, First Aid, Asthma and Anaphylaxis Training.
- Evidence of teacher developed management plans for children's health needs e.g. medical, inclusion, dietary.
- Teacher involvement in specific service legislation requirements for Regulations/Law e.g. environmental safety checklist, excursion risk assessment.
- Teacher's participation and contribution to the Quality Improvement Plan.
- Teacher's involvement in development of WHS policies and procedures.
- Teacher's participation in policy development and review which relates to legislative requirements.
- Participation in professional learning undertaken regarding relevant legislative, administrative, organisational and professional requirements and teacher accountability requirements.

### 7.3 Engage with parents/carers

Establish and maintain respectful and collaborative relationships with parents/carers regarding their children's learning and wellbeing

Establish and maintain respectful and collaborative relationships with families regarding their children's learning and wellbeing

- Performance review or appraisal documents reflecting the teacher's relationships with families.
- Examples of involving families in decision making opportunities for their child. For example, parent goals, participation in the program, feedback on the program.
- Documentation and records of child progress and other written communications with families that demonstrate respect and collaboration regarding the child's learning and well-being.
- Planning notes for meetings with families regarding the child's learning and wellbeing.
- Invitations for families to contribute to the education programme, newsletters and other events.
- Written feedback from families that demonstrate respect and collaboration regarding child's learning and well-being.
- Analytic summaries, transition to school statements and portfolios being shared with families and inclusion of family feedback into future planning e.g. parent goals.
- Newsletter articles written by the teacher relating to children's learning and wellbeing.
- Exchange of daily information about the involvement and experiences of infants and toddlers.
- Participation in orientation and information gathering for new children.
- Teacher and family involvement in plans for children's transitions to the EC setting, within the EC setting and from the EC setting.
- Participation in family/teacher meetings

### 7.4 Engage with professional teaching networks and broader communities

Participate in professional and community networks and forums to broaden knowledge and improve practice

Participate in professional and community networks and forums to broaden knowledge and improve practice

- Participation in teacher and professional networking meetings, including online educational forums, with reflections that show how knowledge has been broadened and/or practice has been improved and shared with colleagues.
- Participation in professional networking through face to face, online forums.
- Engagement with Peak Bodies e.g. signing up for newsletters, attendance at peak agency meetings and forums.
- Record of activities undertaken in a professional network.
- Active engagement and recording of reflection on professional reading to extend knowledge.
- Participation in Inter-agency groups.
- Attendance at professional workshops and conferences with reflection on changes to professional practice.
- Memberships and subscriptions to professional organisations.
- Evidence of engagement with community cultural groups including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups and/or Elders where EC setting is located.

### **Relevant Links**

The Australian Professional Standards for Teachers

https://www.aitsl.edu.au/teach/standards

Documentary Evidence Examples | Proficient Teachers

https://www.aitsl.edu.au/docs/default-source/default-document-library/documentary\_evidence\_proficient\_teachers.pdf?sfvrsn=b9e2ec3c\_0

TRB Website

www.trb.nt.gov.au/

Provisional to Full Registration Process in the Northern Territory

https://www.trb.nt.gov.au/registration/registration-categories/provisional-full-registration-process

### References

Adapted from the Proficient Teacher Evidence Guide - Early Childhood Teachers, NSW Education Standards Authority

 $\frac{\text{https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/wcm/connect/5b21b98c-116b-4f2e-a386-56e77c48f5a8/proficient-teacher-evidence-guide-early-childhood-teachers.pdf?MOD=AJPERES\&CVID=$