



# ECED825

## Early Childhood Professional Practice 2

S1 Day 2016

*Institute of Early Childhood*

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## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Coordinator

Catherine Patterson

[catherine.patterson@mq.edu.au](mailto:catherine.patterson@mq.edu.au)

Contact via email through iLearn dialogue

X5B353

Please email to make an appointment

Tutor

Wendy Shepherd

[wendy.shepherd@mq.edu.au](mailto:wendy.shepherd@mq.edu.au)

Contact via email through iLearn dialogue

Mia Mia

Please email to make an appointment

Unit Coordinator

Doranna Wong

[doranna.wong@mq.edu.au](mailto:doranna.wong@mq.edu.au)

Doranna Wong

[doranna.wong@mq.edu.au](mailto:doranna.wong@mq.edu.au)

Credit points

4

Prerequisites

ECED603 or ECED821

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

In this unit students will build on the knowledge of early childhood theory and practice that gained from your experiences in ECED603. Students will extend understanding of critical reflection and personal professional philosophy as a developing teacher. Central to this unit is a 20 day professional experience placement to develop awareness of the professional role and responsibilities of an early childhood teacher working with children from two to five years. This unit therefore combines theory and practice to enable students to construct practical knowledge of teaching and learning through guided reflection.

## Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Demonstrate the link between theory, the Early Years Learning Framework (DEEWR, 2009) and planning for children aged 2-5 years.

Systematically document and critically analyse the pedagogies and practices of teaching and learning, including ways to guide children's behaviour.

Demonstrate the capacity to articulate a personal philosophy of professional practice as a teacher of young children.

Critically examine ideas, issues and principles connected with professional decision-making as a teacher in an early childhood setting.

Demonstrate the value of an anti bias approach when working with young children and their families.

Demonstrate an understanding of the role of the reflective practitioner.

## General Assessment Information

### General information

Students need to receive a satisfactory grade at the completion of the Professional Experience placement and achieve a grade of 50% or more in order to be eligible to pass this unit.

Detailed information for each individual assessment can be found on the iLearn site under *Assessment*.

### **Please follow these guidelines when you submit each assignment:**

- Allow a left and right-hand margin of at least 2cm in all assignments.
- Please type all assignments using 12-point font and 1.5 spacing.
- All assessments must be submitted through turnitin in .doc or .pdf format for submission.
- Faculty assignment cover sheets are NOT required for this unit.

### **Draft Submissions & Turnitin Originality Reports**

- Students may use Turnitin's Originality Report as a learning tool to improve their academic writing if this option is made available in the unit.
- Students are strongly encouraged to upload a draft copy of each assessment to Turnitin

at least one week prior to the due date to obtain an Originality Report.

- The Originality Report provides students with a similarity index that may indicate if plagiarism has occurred. Students will be able to make amendments to their drafts prior to their final submission on the due date.
- Only one Originality Report is generated every 24 hours up to the due date.

**When preparing your assignments, it is essential that:**

- Students must retain a copy of all assignments before submission, and retain the copy until the final grade for the subject has been received;
- Marks will be deducted if the assessment is submitted after the due date and time (refer to the 'late assessments' section below for more details);
- Unless there are exceptional circumstances, no assessment will be accepted after the date that the assessment has been returned to other students.
- If an assessment is considered to be below passing standard, another staff member on the unit will provide a second opinion. No failed assessment may be re-submitted.

**Late Assessments:**

A deduction of 5% of the total possible mark allocated for that assessment would be made for each day or part day that assessment is late, weekends counting as two days. For example, if an assessment is worth 20 marks and it is submitted 2 days late, 2 marks (2 x 5% of 20 marks) will be subtracted from the awarded mark.

**Extensions:**

In extenuating circumstances, students may apply to the unit coordinator for an extension to the assessment due date. Reasons for the extension need to be documented through the special consideration form accessible through [ask.mq.edu.au](https://ask.mq.edu.au) and supported (e.g., a doctor's certificate in the case of illness).

Note that:

- Students **MUST** speak with the unit coordinator **prior to submitting their request through <https://ask.mq.edu.au>**
- Extensions will only be granted in receipt of the completed form submitted through [ask.mq.edu.au](https://ask.mq.edu.au) plus documentation.
- Emails are not appropriate means of extension requests.
- It is essential that students plan ahead and organise their study time effectively. Poor

time management is not grounds for an extension.

- In the case of computer malfunction, a draft of the assignment may be requested. Please ensure that a draft is printed regularly, so that it is available for submission on request.
- Extensions are usually not granted on the due date.

### Referencing:

All assignments should cite and provide full bibliographical details of all material that used to inform or support ideas. At the Institute of Early Childhood, students are required to use the American Psychological Association (APA) referencing procedures. Full details about how to cite and reference correctly can be found in **Perrin (2015)**. All students will need to download this guide and use it as they prepare their assignment.

#### *Highly recommended text*

Perrin, R. (2015). *Pocket guide to APA style* (5th ed.). Wadsworth: Cengage Learning.

### Grades

The final grade a student receives signifies their overall performance in meeting the learning outcomes for the unit. The number assigned to a grade (Standard Numerical Grade or SNG) reflects the extent to which student attainment matches the grade descriptors.

**The raw mark for the unit (i.e., the total of the marks for each assessment item) may not be the same as the SNG.** Results may be scaled to ensure there is a degree of comparability across the university, so that units with the same past performances of their students should achieve similar results. The process of scaling does not change the order of marks among students. A student who receives a higher raw score mark than another will also receive a higher final scaled mark.

#### **HD**      *High Distinction 85-100%*

Provides consistent evidence of deep and critical understanding in relation to the learning outcomes. There is substantial originality and insight in identifying, generating and communicating competing arguments, perspectives or problem solving approaches; critical evaluation of problems, their solutions and their implications; creativity in application as appropriate to the discipline.

#### **D**      *Distinction 75-84%*

Provides evidence of integration and evaluation of critical ideas, principles and theories, distinctive insight and ability in applying relevant skills and concepts in relation to learning outcomes. There is demonstration of frequent originality in defining and analysing issues or problems and providing solutions; and the use of means of communication appropriate to the discipline and the audience.

#### **Cr**      *Credit 65-74%*

Provides evidence of learning that goes beyond replication of content knowledge or skills relevant to the learning outcomes. There is demonstration of substantial understanding of fundamental concepts in the field of study and the ability to apply these concepts in a variety of contexts; convincing argumentation with appropriate coherent justification; communication of ideas fluently and clearly in terms of the conventions of the discipline.

**P** *Pass 50-64%*

Provides sufficient evidence of the achievement of learning outcomes. There is demonstration of understanding and application of fundamental concepts of the field of study; routine argumentation with acceptable justification; communication of information and ideas adequately in terms of the conventions of the discipline. The learning attainment is considered satisfactory or adequate or competent or capable in relation to the specified outcomes.

**F** *Fail 0-49%*

Does not provide evidence of attainment of learning outcomes. There is missing or partial or superficial or faulty understanding and application of the fundamental concepts in the field of study; missing, undeveloped, inappropriate or confusing argumentation; incomplete, confusing or lacking communication of ideas in ways that give little attention to the conventions of the discipline.

## Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
Parent newsletter supplement	20%	29th March 2016
An anti bias approach	40%	3rd May 2016
Professional Experience	40%	14th June 2016

### Parent newsletter supplement

Due: **29th March 2016**

Weighting: **20%**

This assessment will enable students to articulate appropriate teaching strategies to use with children 2-5 year and determine appropriate strategies to guide young children's behaviour.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Systematically document and critically analyse the pedagogies and practices of teaching and learning, including ways to guide children's behaviour.
- Critically examine ideas, issues and principles connected with professional decision-making as a teacher in an early childhood setting.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the role of the reflective practitioner.

## An anti bias approach

Due: **3rd May 2016**

Weighting: **40%**

This assessment will enable students to explore principles of anti bias education and their application with children 2-5 years.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate the link between theory, the Early Years Learning Framework (DEEWR, 2009) and planning for children aged 2-5 years.
- Demonstrate the capacity to articulate a personal philosophy of professional practice as a teacher of young children.
- Critically examine ideas, issues and principles connected with professional decision-making as a teacher in an early childhood setting.
- Demonstrate the value of an anti bias approach when working with young children and their families.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the role of the reflective practitioner.

## Professional Experience

Due: **14th June 2016**

Weighting: **40%**

3a) Documenting children's learning - Components of the professional experience folder (40%)

3b) Professional Experience working as an early childhood teacher - Evaluation Report (S/U)

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate the link between theory, the Early Years Learning Framework (DEEWR, 2009) and planning for children aged 2-5 years.
- Demonstrate the capacity to articulate a personal philosophy of professional practice as a teacher of young children.
- Critically examine ideas, issues and principles connected with professional decision-making as a teacher in an early childhood setting.
- Demonstrate the value of an anti bias approach when working with young children and their families.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the role of the reflective practitioner.

## Delivery and Resources

**Please note: It is the responsibility of individual students to be aware of pre and co**

**requisites throughout their program. If you are considering withdrawing from this unit please seek academic advice as this may impact on your progression throughout the degree.**

**Requirements for this unit:**

The timetable for classes can be found on the University web site at:

<https://timetables.mq.edu.au/2016/>

- There will be four (4) day sessions for this unit throughout the semester. Attendance is compulsory. These sessions have been scheduled on the following Fridays:
  - 11<sup>th</sup> March
  - 8<sup>th</sup> April
  - 13<sup>th</sup> May
  - 10<sup>th</sup> June

Classes will be held in X5B 041 from 10am – 3pm. Students are expected to attend for the full day.

**1. Required Textbooks**

Arthur, L., Beecher, B., Death, E., Dockett, S., & Farmer, S. (2015). *Programming and planning in early childhood settings*. (6<sup>th</sup> ed.) Victoria: Thomson.

MacNaughton, G., & Williams, G. (2009). *Techniques for teaching young children: Choices in theory and practice*. (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). NSW: Pearson Education.

Porter, L. (2016). *Young children's behaviour: Guidance approaches for early childhood educators*. (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). Sydney: Allen & Unwin.

*Earlier editions of these textbooks will be suitable for this unit*

**2. Weekly required reading schedule:**

There is a combination of readings from your textbooks and readings which can be sourced via Multisearch on the library website. A link is available through iLearn under: *Learning support & resources*. In addition to chapters from your textbooks, you will need to read the following:

*Week 1*

*Early Years Learning Framework*

[http://docs.education.gov.au/system/files/doc/other/belonging\\_being\\_and\\_becoming\\_the\\_early\\_years\\_learning\\_framework\\_for\\_australia.pdf](http://docs.education.gov.au/system/files/doc/other/belonging_being_and_becoming_the_early_years_learning_framework_for_australia.pdf)

*Week 2*

Curtis, D., & Carter, M. (2008). *Learning together with young children: A curriculum framework for reflective teachers*. St. Paul, MN: Redleaf Press (chapter 6).



### Week 3

Epstein, A.S. (2015). *The intentional teacher. Choosing the best strategies for young children's learning*. Washington: NAEYC. (chapter 1)

### Week 4

Derman-Sparks, L, LeeKeenan, L, & Nimmo, J (2015). *Leading anti-bias early childhood programs. A guide for change*. New York: Teachers College Press. (chapter 3)

### Week 6

Curtis, D., & Carter, M. (2013). *The art of awareness: How observation can transform your teaching* (2nd ed.). St. Paul, MN: Red Leaf Press. (Chapter 14)

### Week 10

Fleet, A., Honig, T., Robertson, J., Semann, A. & Shepherd, W. (2011). *What's pedagogy anyway*. Retrieved from:

<http://www.cscentral.org.au/Resources/what-is-pedagogy-anyway-.pdf>

### Week 11

Connor, J. (2012). *Foundations for learning: Relationships between the early years learning framework and the Australian curriculum (An ECA–ACARA paper)*. Retrieved from: [http://foundationinquirylearning.global2.vic.edu.au/files/2013/06/ECA\\_ACARA\\_Foundations\\_Paper-2cq59mi.pdf](http://foundationinquirylearning.global2.vic.edu.au/files/2013/06/ECA_ACARA_Foundations_Paper-2cq59mi.pdf)

Dockett, S. & Perry, B. (2014). *Continuity of learning: A resource to support effective transition to school and school aged care*. Retrieved from: <http://docs.education.gov.au/node/36571>

### Week 13

Ashton, J., Woodrow, C., Johnston, C., Wangmann, J., Singh, L., & James, T. (2008). Partnerships in learning: linking early childhood services, families and schools for optimal development. *Australian Journal of Early Childhood*, 33(2), 10-16.

## 3. Assumed Texts

Crowther, I. (2011). *Creating effective learning environments* (3rd ed.). Ontario: Thomson.

### The following texts can be downloaded from the links:

Australian Government Department of Education Employment and Workplace Relations. (2009). *Belonging, being & becoming: The early years learning framework for Australia*.

Australia: Commonwealth of Australia. Retrieved from [http://files.acecqa.gov.au/files/National-Quality-Framework-Resources-Kit/belonging\\_being\\_and\\_becoming\\_the\\_early\\_years\\_learning\\_framework\\_for\\_australia.pdf](http://files.acecqa.gov.au/files/National-Quality-Framework-Resources-Kit/belonging_being_and_becoming_the_early_years_learning_framework_for_australia.pdf)

Australian Government Department of Education Employment and Workplace Relations.

(2010). *Educators being, belonging & becoming: Educators' guide to the early years learning framework of Australia*. Australia: Commonwealth of Australia. Retrieved from [http://files.acecqa.gov.au/files/National-Quality-Framework-Resources-Kit/educators\\_guide\\_to\\_the\\_early\\_years\\_learning\\_framework\\_for\\_australia.pdf](http://files.acecqa.gov.au/files/National-Quality-Framework-Resources-Kit/educators_guide_to_the_early_years_learning_framework_for_australia.pdf)

Early Childhood Australia. (2006). *Early childhood Australia code of ethics*. Retrieved from [http://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/code\\_of\\_ethics\\_brochure\\_print\\_2010.pdf](http://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/code_of_ethics_brochure_print_2010.pdf)

NSW Department of Community Services. (2002). *NSW Curriculum framework for children's services: The practice of relationships*. Sydney: Office of Childcare. Retrieved from [http://www.community.nsw.gov.au/docswr/assets/main/documents/childcare\\_framework.pdf](http://www.community.nsw.gov.au/docswr/assets/main/documents/childcare_framework.pdf)

#### **4. Recommended Reading**

##### **Reflective Practice**

Perry, R. (2004). *Teaching practice for early childhood: A guide for students*. (2nd ed.). London: Routledge Falmer.

##### **Focus on children**

Crooke, S. & Farmer, B. (2004). *Just imagine! Creative play experiences for children under six*. (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Victoria: Tertiary Press.

Curtis, D., & Carter, M. (2008). *Learning together with young children: A curriculum framework for reflective teachers*. Minnesota: Redleaf Press.

Gonzalez-Mena, J. (2011). *Foundations of early childhood education: Teaching children in a diverse society*. (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Boston: McGraw-Hill.

Hendrick, J. & Weissman, P (2007). *Total learning: Developmental curriculum for the young child*. (7th ed.). Columbus: Merrill Publishing.

##### **Social Justice Issues**

Dau, E. (2001). *The anti-bias approach in early childhood*. Sydney: Longman.

Derman-Sparks, I. & Edwards, J. (2010). *Anti-bias education for young children and ourselves*. Washington: NAEYC.

Derman-Sparks, L., LeeKeenan, D, & Nimmo, J. (2015). *Leading anti-bias early childhood programs: A guide for change*. Washington: NAEYC.

Gonzalez-Mena, J. (2007). *Diversity in care and education: Honoring differences* (5th ed.). New York: McGraw Hill.

Robinson, K.H., & Jones-Diaz, C. (2006). *Diversity and difference in early childhood education: Issues for theory and practice*. Berkshire, UK: Open University Press.

##### **Curriculum Decision Making**

Curtis, D., & Carter, M. (2013). *The art of awareness: How observation can transform your*

*teaching* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). St. Paul, MN: Redleaf Press.

Fleet, A., & Patterson, C. (2011). *Seeing assessment as a stepping stone: Thinking in the context of the EYLF*. Deakin West, ACT: Early Childhood Australia.

Fleet, A., Patterson, C., & Robertson, J. (Eds.). (2006). *Insights: Behind early childhood pedagogical documentation*. Sydney: Pademelon Press.

Fleet, A., Patterson, C., & Robertson, J. (Eds.). (2012). *Conversations: Behind early childhood pedagogical documentation*. Sydney: Pademelon Press.

Goodfellow, J. (2009). *The early years learning framework: Getting started*. Canberra: ECA.

Helm, J. & Katz, L. (2001). *Young investigators: The project approach in the early years*. New York: Teachers College Press.

Helm, J., & Beneke, S. (Eds.). (2003). *The power of projects: Meeting contemporary challenges in early childhood classrooms – Strategies and solutions*. New York: Teachers College Press.

Hill, L., Stremmel, A. & Fu, V. (2005). *Teaching as inquiry: Rethinking curriculum in early childhood education*. Boston: Pearson Education.

Patterson, C., & Fleet, A. (2011). *Planning in the context of the EYLF: Powerful, practical and pedagogically sound*. Canberra: ECA

Raban, B., Margetts, K., Church, A. & Deans, J. (2010). *The early years learning framework in practice: A handbook for educators and parents*. Albert Park: Teaching Solutions.

Stacey, S. (2009). *Emergent curriculum in early childhood settings: From theory to practice*. Minnesota: Redleaf Press.

Stacey, S. (2011). *The unscripted classroom: Emergent curriculum in action*. Minnesota: Redleaf Press.

### ***Ideas from Reggio Emilia***

Cadwell, L. (2003). *Bringing learning to life: The Reggio approach to early childhood education*. New York: Teachers College Press.

Edwards, C., Gandini, L. & Forman, G. (Eds.). (2012). *The hundred languages of children: The Reggio Emilia experience in transformation*. (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). California: Praeger.

Giamminuti, S. (2013). *Dancing with Reggio Emilia: Metaphors for quality*. Mt Victoria, NSW: Pademelon Press.

Millikan, J., & Giamminuti, S. (2014). *Documentation and the Early Years Learning Framework: Researching in Reggio Emilia and Australia*. Mt Victoria, NSW: Pademelon Press.

### ***Representations of Learning***

Gandini, L., Hill, L., Cadwell, L. & Schwall, C. (Eds.). (2005). *In the spirit of the studio: Learning from the atelier of Reggio Emilia*. New York: Teachers College Press.

Kolbe, U. (2005). *It's not a bird yet: The drama of drawing*. Bryon Bay, NSW: Peppinot Press.

Kolbe, U. (2007). *Rapunzel's supermarket: All about young children and their art*. (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Byron Bay, NSW: Peppinot Press.

Kolbe, U. (2014). *Children's imagination: Creativity under our noses*. Byron Bay, NSW: Peppinot Press.

### ***Transition to School***

Dockett, S., & Perry, B. (2006). *Starting school: A handbook for early childhood educators*. Castle Hill: Pademelon Press.

Dockett, S., & Perry, B. (2007). *Transitions to school: Perceptions, expectations, experiences*. Sydney: UNSW.

Pianta, R.C., & Kraft-Sayre, M. (2003). *Successful kindergarten transition. Your guide to connecting children, families & schools*. Baltimore: Brookes.

### **Some Useful Journals**

*Australian Journal of Early Childhood*

*Contemporary Issues in Early Childhood* (online journal [www.triangle.co.uk/ciec](http://www.triangle.co.uk/ciec))

*Early Child Development and Care*

*Early Childhood Education Journal*

*Early Childhood Research and Practice* (online journal <http://ecrp.uiuc.edu/index.html>)

*Early Childhood Research Quarterly*

*Early Years: An International Journal of Research and Development*

*International Journal of Early Childhood*

*International Journal of Early Years Education*

### **Some Useful Websites**

*Early Childhood Australia:* <http://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/>

*National Association for the Education of Young Children:* <http://www.naeyc.org>

## **Unit Schedule**

Week beginning	Topic for the week

Week 1 Feb 29	Introduction to the unit: Pedagogy and approaches to curriculum
Week 2 March 7	Environments and invitations to play <b>CLASS 1: 11<sup>th</sup> March</b>
Week 3 March 14	Establishing meaningful relationships with children
Week 4 March 21	Honouring diversity through an anti-bias approach
Week 5 March 28	Professional Experience: Guidelines and Expectations <b>ASSESSMENT 1 DUE: 29<sup>th</sup> March 5pm</b>
Week 6 April 4	Programming and planning for children's learning <b>CLASS 2: 8<sup>th</sup> April</b>
Week 7/8 April 11-22	<b>Study Period</b>
Week 9 April 25	Guiding children's behaviour: Principles and practices
Week 10 May 2	Introducing pedagogical documentation <b>ASSESSMENT 2 DUE: 3<sup>rd</sup> May 5pm</b>
Week 11 May 9	Transition to school for children, families and teachers
Week 12 May 16	Working in partnership with families
Weeks 13, 14 and 15  June 6	Professional Experience <b>Friday 10 June: Final class</b>  <b>ASSESSMENT 3 DUE: 14<sup>th</sup> June, 5pm</b>

## Learning and Teaching Activities

### Information necessary for this unit

Students are expected to read the following documents as part of the unit: - ECED 825 unit guide - detailed assessment information - Professional Experience Guidelines - Professional

Experience Handbook 2016

## Unit Expectations

Expectations for students: come to sessions prepared having listened to the lecture, read the weekly readings and completed the assigned tasks. Students need to be prepared to: - read widely and give thoughtful consideration to the ideas encountered - participate fully in online and on campus discussions and activities - submit all assessments - undertake 20 days of Professional Experience (5 observation days and 15 teaching days) and fulfil all Professional Experience requirements - submit the Professional Experience Evaluation form on completion of placement.

## Professional Experience

Students will be expected to complete three weeks of Professional Experience from Monday 23rd May – Friday 11th June 2016. Prior to this, students are expected to negotiate with the cooperating teacher to complete five (6) observation days at times which do not impact on attendance at tutorials for this or other units. Students will be assessed as satisfactory or unsatisfactory against the Professional Experience Evaluation form.

## Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy [http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic\\_honesty/policy.html](http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html)

**New Assessment Policy in effect from Session 2 2016** [http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy\\_2016.html](http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy_2016.html). For more information visit [http://students.mq.edu.au/events/2016/07/19/new\\_assessment\\_policy\\_in\\_place\\_from\\_session\\_2/](http://students.mq.edu.au/events/2016/07/19/new_assessment_policy_in_place_from_session_2/)

Assessment Policy prior to Session 2 2016 <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

Grading Policy prior to Session 2 2016 <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/complaint\\_management/procedure.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/complaint_management/procedure.html)

Disruption to Studies Policy [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption\\_studies/policy.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html) *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

## Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: [https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student\\_conduct/](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/)



## Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit [ask.mq.edu.au](#).

## Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

## Learning Skills

Learning Skills ([mq.edu.au/learningskills](http://mq.edu.au/learningskills)) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

## Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

## Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au)

## IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit [http://www.mq.edu.au/about\\_us/offices\\_and\\_units/information\\_technology/help/](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/).

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

## Graduate Capabilities

### PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

## **Learning outcomes**

- Critically examine ideas, issues and principles connected with professional decision-making as a teacher in an early childhood setting.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the role of the reflective practitioner.

## **Assessment tasks**

- Parent newsletter supplement
- An anti bias approach
- Professional Experience

## **PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills**

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

## **Learning outcomes**

- Demonstrate the link between theory, the Early Years Learning Framework (DEEWR, 2009) and planning for children aged 2-5 years.
- Systematically document and critically analyse the pedagogies and practices of teaching and learning, including ways to guide children's behaviour.
- Demonstrate the capacity to articulate a personal philosophy of professional practice as a teacher of young children.
- Critically examine ideas, issues and principles connected with professional decision-making as a teacher in an early childhood setting.
- Demonstrate the value of an anti bias approach when working with young children and their families.

## **Assessment tasks**

- Parent newsletter supplement
- An anti bias approach
- Professional Experience

## **PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking**

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based



critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

### **Learning outcomes**

- Systematically document and critically analyse the pedagogies and practices of teaching and learning, including ways to guide children's behaviour.
- Demonstrate the capacity to articulate a personal philosophy of professional practice as a teacher of young children.
- Critically examine ideas, issues and principles connected with professional decision-making as a teacher in an early childhood setting.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the role of the reflective practitioner.

### **Assessment tasks**

- Parent newsletter supplement
- An anti bias approach
- Professional Experience

## **PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability**

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

### **Assessment task**

- Professional Experience

## **PG - Effective Communication**

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

### **Learning outcome**

- Demonstrate the value of an anti bias approach when working with young children and their families.

### **Assessment tasks**

- An anti bias approach

- Professional Experience

## PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

### **Learning outcome**

- Demonstrate the value of an anti bias approach when working with young children and their families.

### **Assessment tasks**

- An anti bias approach
- Professional Experience