

Implement contemporary frameworks within the context of playwork

Overview

This standard is about researching contemporary frameworks which impact on working with children and young people within the context of playwork, analysing current policies and practice within the playwork setting in which you operate and seeking to update and implement the policies and practices of your organisation to align them with contemporary frameworks.

The main outcomes of this standard are:

1. research and analyse relevant contemporary and key frameworks within the context of playwork
2. review, update and implement policy and practice based on analysis

This standard is for an individual working within playwork, operating at management levels in a variety of cross-sector positions; working in a role that includes managing a number of playwork settings whose main purpose is to provide children and young people with opportunities for freely chosen, self-directed play. They will be responsible for the operational running of these playwork settings, and for numerous staff and their welfare.

This standard is underpinned by The Playwork Principles and playworkers must be familiar with these and, where possible, demonstrate them through their practice and reflection.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

Research and analyse relevant contemporary and key frameworks within the context of playwork

1. carry out research of **sources** of information on contemporary frameworks
2. analyse your findings of **contemporary and key frameworks** that are relevant to your organisation and the children and young people you work with
3. discuss your analysis with **others**
4. agree with **others** which **contemporary and key frameworks** are most relevant to your organisation and the needs of the children and young people you work with

Review, update and implement policy and practice based on analysis

5. use the research and analysis findings to review your current framework
6. present information about **contemporary and key frameworks** to **others** to guide the review of policy and practice
7. agree with **others** areas of policy and practice that could be improved, in accordance with your organisational procedures
8. review and update your current framework in accordance with your organisational procedures to meet the requirements of **contemporary and key frameworks**

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

Research and analyse relevant contemporary and key frameworks within the context of playwork

1. the Playwork Principles within the professional and ethical framework for playwork and how each of the principles can be applied within your own role
2. sources of information that can be used to research **contemporary and key frameworks** and how to access these
3. the importance of understanding **contemporary and key frameworks** and the impact they have on play provision
4. the importance of written policies that cover **contemporary and key frameworks** and how they uphold and promote children and young people's rights
5. the relationship between your organisational policies and practice and the **contemporary and key frameworks**
6. how to reflect and engage with **others** and why it is important
7. how to balance a playwork ethos with the requirements of **contemporary and key frameworks** and the importance of this
8. the importance of keeping research up-to-date

Review, update and implement policy and practice based on analysis

9. how to review, evaluate and revise your organisation's current framework in the light of your research
10. how to identify which areas of policies and practice are affected by **contemporary and key frameworks**
11. how to present information and engage with **others** to influence policy and practice within your organisation
12. sources of information and support on how to develop policies and practice
13. how to develop policies and practice in accordance with your organisational procedure
14. the importance of reviewing and updating your current framework in line with policies and practice

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**Scope/range related
to performance
criteria**

- Sources**
1. current
 2. relevant
 3. valid
 4. reliable

Contemporary and key frameworks (*minimum of 6 out of 10*)

1. regulatory and legislative requirements
2. health and social policy
3. economic and funding
4. political
5. ethical
6. social
7. technological
8. professional registration
9. professional development
10. justice system

Others (*minimum of 5 out of 9*)

1. staff
2. parents and or carers
3. management
4. external organisations
5. inspectors
6. children and young people
7. teachers
8. health visitors
9. social workers

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Scope/range related to knowledge and understanding **Contemporary and key frameworks**

1. regulatory and legislative requirements
2. health and social policy
3. economic and funding
4. political
5. ethical
6. social
7. technological
8. professional registration
9. professional development
10. justice system

Others

1. staff
2. parents and or carers
3. management
4. external organisations
5. inspectors
6. children and young people
7. teachers
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Values

The Playwork practitioners involved in writing this standard, in conjunction with SkillsActive, have agreed to adopt the following as the set of values prescribed for all of those working within the playwork sector:

Playwork Principles

These Principles establish the professional and ethical framework for playwork and as such must be regarded as a whole. They describe what is unique about play and playwork, and provide the playwork perspective for working with children and young people. They are based on the recognition that children and young people's capacity for positive development will be enhanced if given access to the broadest range of environments and play opportunities.

1. All children and young people need to play. The impulse to play is innate. Play is a biological, psychological and social necessity, and is fundamental to the healthy development and wellbeing of individuals and communities.
2. Play is a process that is freely chosen, personally directed and intrinsically motivated. That is, children and young people determine and control the content and intent of their play, by following their own instincts, ideas and interests, in their own way for their own reasons.
3. The prime focus and essence of playwork is to support and facilitate the play process and this should inform the development of play policy, strategy, training and education.
4. For playworkers, the play process takes precedence and playworkers act as advocates for play when engaging with adult led agendas.
5. The role of the playworker is to support all children and young people in the creation of a space in which they can play.
6. The playworker's response to children and young people playing is based on a sound up to date knowledge of the play process, and reflective practice.
7. Playworkers recognise their own impact on the play space and also the impact of children and young people's play on the playworker.

8. Playworkers choose an intervention style that enables children and young people to extend their play. All playworker intervention must balance risk with the developmental benefit and wellbeing of children.

The Playwork Principles are held in trust for the UK playwork profession by the Scrutiny Group that acted as an honest broker overseeing the consultations through which they were developed.

Glossary

Playwork ethos

The guiding beliefs or ideals when working with children and young people to give them support and freedom to gain positive experiences through play; reference should be made to the Playwork Principles

Play provision

Adult created places where children and young people can play

Play space

A place formed by children and young people playing. It can be physical, affective, permanent, transient or cyber

Playwork setting

Somewhere children and young people have the opportunity to play that is staffed by playworkers

Staff

This covers those with whom you work, for whom you are responsible, paid and or unpaid, or students and or trainees

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