Level 3 Children's Care, Play, Learning, and Development: Practice and Theory Extended Investigation

Unit 331: Investigating current issues in children’s care, play, learning, and development in Wales

Exemplar
Pass Awarded

City & Guilds | wjec cbac

Level 3 Children's Care, Play, Learning, and Development: Practice and Theory

TIMESHEET must be submitted with the candidates work

Centre Name/*Enw'r Ganolfan*:

Centre Number/*Rhif y Ganolfan*:

Candidate Name/*Enw'r Ymgeisydd*:

Candidate Number/*Rhif yr Ymgeisydd*: 1

Extended Investigation

The total time allowed must not exceed 15 hours. / *Ni ddylai'r cyfanswm yr amser a ganiateir fod yn fwy na 15 awr.*
The timed, supervised hours took place as follows: / *Cynhaliwyd oriau dan oruchwyliaeth wedi'u hamseru fel a ganlyn:*

Dates *Dyddiadau*			Time Allowed (15 hours) *Amser a Ganiateir (15 awr)* Hours/*Oriau*	Minutes/*Munudau*
03	05	22	3	—
04	05	22	3	—
05	05	22	3	—
06	05	22	2	45
09	05	22	0	55

I confirm that the evidence submitted for assessment has been produced by me without any assistance beyond that allowed. / *Cadarnhaf fy mod wedi cynhyrchu'r dystiolaeth a gyflwynwyd i'w hasesu heb unrhyw gymorth heblaw am yr hyn sy'n cael ei ganiatáu.*

Candidate's Signature/*Llofnod yr Ymgesiydd:* ..

Date/*Dyddiad:* 9.5.22

Unit 331 Extended Investigation

Option 1: Research and evidence-based practice impacts on current legislation and government initiatives. Research how current policy and legislation have informed changes in early years education in Wales.

Task 1: Introduction **(450 words)**

Outline:

- the main focus areas you have chosen to research in relation to your selected topic
- why you have selected the topic and the focus areas; you may wish to refer to personal interest, taught content, sector engagement and work placement the methods of research that you have used
- sources used as part of investigating the topic and focus areas. **(9 Marks)**

The topic I have chosen to explore is play which is linked to research of how current policy legislation and evidence based practice have informed changes. The main focus areas I am then going to explore are vehicles for learning. This will help children as they will be receiving different experiences and play environments. The next topic I will then look at will be Well-being as this "provides holistic structure and it is important to enable successful learning". Welsh Government (2020) Curriculum for Wales Guidance. https://hwb.gov.wales/api/storage/afca43eb-5c50-4846-9c2d-od56fbffbba09/curriculum-for-wales-guidance-120320.pdf (Accessed 25 April 2022). The final topic I will then look at will be PILES. Physical would be how children may be developing their gross motor skills by running when playing football outside. Children could then be developing their intellectual development through play as they may be completing jigsaws or they may be problem solving. Language could be developed a lot through play as children would have the opportunity to communicate if they were playing in groups and they may then pick up on the vocabulary other children are using and may then use this themselves. A child's emotional development can be improved through play as they will be able to express emotions to each other whether this is happy or sad and this may be done through playing with emotion dolls. Finally a child could develop their social skills as they would be taking it in turns to talk and they would then become good listeners and learn what is socially acceptable and how to live as part of a community. I have chosen to do this topic because when learning about it in unit 330 topic 1 and 5, I found this really interesting. I also chose this topic because in placement I support the children's play and find this really enjoyable. I will be looking at the Donaldson review as this "focuses on the importance of having access to play and leisure, sporting and cultural activities". Donaldson.G (2015) Successful Futures https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-03/sucessful-futures.pdf (Accessed 26 April 2022). I will also look at the Foundation Phase as this shows the importance of play and it should be a part of the curriculum. The curriculum for Wales, Children's rights in Wales, the seven core aims The Equality Act, Welsh Government Play Policy, Wellbeing of Future Generations Act would also be useful to look at as these emphasise the importance of play. The theorists I will look at will be Janet Moyles, with the play spiritual approach and Elinor Goldschmied and the treasure baskets. I will then finally use programmes such as flying start, Reggio Emilia and montessori, as this shows how children can learn in different play environments.

Words 461

Task 2: Discuss how your selected topic and focus areas support CCPLD **(1500 words)**

Your evidence must include:

- how the focus areas support (positively or negatively) children's care, play learning and development
- a variety of viewpoints including your own and/or those of others
- appropriate examples from theory and/or practice to support your discussion
- how relevant theory/legislation or frameworks (as appropriate) have impacted on the topic and focus areas

- traceable references or quotes to support evidence. **(30 Marks)**

I will discuss how play supports CCPLD. Play is essential as it helps children to thrive and develop holistically. Play is a vehicle for learning as it is important for brain development. Elinor Goldschmied emphasises the importance of play as she says that it not only activates the growth of the brain but it also provides richly satisfying experiences, as it allows them to use all their senses. I think that developing the brain is really important as this allows children to think for themselves. This is also really important as it can help children to "recover quickly from setbacks, an example of this could be a child may feel pride in stacking blocks and disappointment when the last block makes the tower fall" Anderson. J (2010) The importance of play in early childhood development https://www.tulsaeducare.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/01/Educare-Content-G-Articles-Importace-of-play-Article.pdf (Accessed 26 April). In the curriculum for Wales it mentions how it can "build learners' resilience in order for them to become ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives" .Anderson. J (2010) The importance of play in early childhood development https://www.tulsaeducare.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/01/Educare-Content-G-Articles-Importace-of-play-Article.pdf (Accessed 26 April) This can then be supported by the Well-being and Future Generations Act as one of their aims is to have a more resilient Wales as their main focus is to overcome change and setbacks. In the new curriculum they will be able to have more of a say of how they teach the children as the guidance aims to help each school develop its own curriculum. This could mean that teachers would be able to voice children's interests as this would mean they are getting the most out of their play and learning more. In my opinion play is crucial because it gives children an opportunity to make a choice of where they want to play. This will then help them to become independent. I also think play is important because everything a child has learned can be interlinked. In the seven core aims it says how "play projects acquire a range of transferable skills. Welsh Government (2022) Seven Core Aims https://www.playwales.org.uk/eng/sevencoreaims (Accessed 25 April 2022). This will then mean that if children learn how to write they can then use this in the creative area. Play would give the child a sense of freedom as they would be given options. This would then be linked to "child-led practice", which Janet Moyles believed was really important when it came to the play spiral approach. Skyteach (2019) The play spiritual approach https://skyteach.ru/2019/06/24the-play-spiral-approach/ (Accessed 26 April 2022). This means that children would be able to have a voice and they could then have a say in what they want to play with.

A disadvantage of play being a vehicle to learning is that children have a lot of time playing independently. This would mean that children may not then be doing what they are supposed to and not playing with the equipment effectively. In my opinion I think that this could be overcome by teachers guiding the children and directing play. This could be when a teacher encourages a child to choose an area. Another disadvantage could be that "children would need to do a lot of turn taking and sharing". Skyteach (2019) The play spiritual approach https://skyteach.ru/2019/06/24the-play-spiral-approach/ (Accessed 26 April 2022). This could then result in some children not getting the most out of their play if some children are reluctant to share.

"Wellbeing is important to enable successful learning". I think wellbeing is important as it is the foundation to be able to learn. Good well being can lead to "confident individuals". This could then mean children will be able to play in groups better and hold a conversation with another child. This will then help a child's self esteem. "A child will then be able to develop a vision of the world and gain a sense of their place in it". "Children's free choice of their play is a crucial factor in enriching, learning and contributing to their wellbeing and development". In my opinion I think this would play a vital part to their wellbeing as they will be able to make decisions and this is good for children to be able to do as they become independent from them doing this. When children are playing

they are improving their wellbeing because as they are moving around this is then helping them to stay active, which will then result in them maintaining good health and wellbeing. As part of the well-being and future generations act one of their goals is a healthier Wales. "A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and that benefit for future health is understood". Children will develop a sense of empathy through play as they will be able to understand when someone is upset or angry and will then gain the ability to comfort them. This could be done through the role play area. Donaldson.G (2015) Successful Futures https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-03/sucessful-futures.pdf (Accessed 26 April 2022). Reducing stress is a really big part of helping well-being. This can then mean that a child can relax. I think children should be provided with plenty of opportunities to play because it can improve their mood a lot, as they are able to concentrate on play, which helps to relieve stress so they are more likely to be happier.

A child's wellbeing can also be affected negatively because if some children are living in poverty they may not get the same play opportunities. In the seven core aims number seven is for a child not to be disadvantaged by child poverty. It then says the concept of play deprivation is where a child's health, well-being and long term development is detrimentally affected by a lack of opportunity to play, which is poverty of experience. This could then have a negative impact on a child's well-being as they may be behind in the developmental norms such as emotional or social. This will also hugely impact their well-being as it could result in isolation, which can then turn into depression.

"Children have the right to play". Welsh Government (28 February 2022) Children's Rights in Wales https://gov.wales/childrens-rights-in-wales (Accessed 25 April 2022). Play can improve children's overall development when it comes to PILES. Physical health is really essential as it can ensure children have developed some of the basic skills when it comes to fitness. First of all, it can improve their "balance". Nidirect (No date) How play helps children's development https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/artlicles/how-play-helps-childrens-development#:~:text=Play%20improves%20the20cognitive%2C%20physical,confidence (Accessed 26 April 2022). Balance can be developed through beams or standing and hopping on one leg. This can be practised so that children will be able to do it confidently. Socially it can also help a child to develop because they will take it in turns to talk and they will also understand the importance of sharing. Flying start is a programme, where their main focus is to improve social skills. This can be promoted through taking turns with toys and allowing opportunities for them to communicate with others. When a child plays individually and with others their "cognitive skills are improving as they learn the ability to think and remember". Li.P. (2022) Importance of play in early childhood (9 benefits and infographic) https://www.parentingforbrain.com/benefits-play-learning-activities-early-childhood/ (Accessed 26 April 2022). This can be supported through measurement as they could be learning the concept of full and empty, through pouring water in the water tray. In play children will use language all the time. Children will recognise new words that children have used and will then use them in their own vocabulary. This will be really beneficial to a child as it strengthens their vocabulary and it will improve their confidence as they communicate with others. Emotional development is not only essential for academic success but it also impacts on their social success. Whilst children are playing they will have plenty of opportunities to express emotions. Reggio Emilia can support this as it is built around a range of visual and expressive arts, this will enable children to be given opportunities everyday to represent their experiences, ideas, thoughts,views and feelings in a variety of ways. Drew. C. (2021)Unstructured Play: 13 pros and cons for learning https://helpfulprofessor.com/unstructed-play-based-learning/ (Accessed 26 April 2022).

In contrast it does have some negative effects on children's development. Socially it can be really damaging for children. Children could be "bullied or excluded". from groups. This will then have an affect on the child as it would result in them being isolated and may even lead to depression later on in life. Physical development would have a risk because some play activities may be too risky, which would then put children at risk of being injured.

Words 1509

Task 3: Evaluate how the values and principles that underpin your selected topic **(750 words)**

Your evidence should include reference to:

- Effective communication
- Teamwork and collaborative working
- Equality, inclusion & diversity
- Freedom to participate
- Children's rights being upheld
- Professional skills
- Any other as appropriate **(15 Marks)**

In this section I will evaluate how values and principles underpin my topic. As a vehicle for learning, effective communication is key. As part of the new curriculum schools are required to design their own. This will then mean that the school is responsible for communicating with other schools to see how well the curriculum is working and where the areas for improvement would be. The school is also assessed on how well this is working so they would need to communicate on how the school can change the curriculum if they notice a certain area a lot of children find challenging. There would be communication with parents as the practitioners could mention any concerns if a child is isolating themselves, so then the parents are aware of this. A play therapist would be in settings such as flying start as they would then be able to support the children during play. This will then mean that teamwork is being shown as they are working with the practitioner and communicating what they observe. "Schools deliver an entitlement to a broad and balanced education for all children".Donaldson.G (2015) Successful Futures https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-03/sucessful-futures.pdf (Accessed 26 April 2022). This would ensure that all children have the same opportunities which support inclusion and equality. Children are given freedom as they are able to explore and make choices. "Children are offered the opportunity to explore, through freely chosen play, both themselves and the world." Welsh Government Play Policy (2022) https://www.playwales.org.uk/eng/walesplaypolicy (Accessed 26 April 2022). Play gives them a chance to be free as they can interpret how they play. The UNCRC enforces that "children have the right to play". "Ministers are then responsible to ensure that everyone understands and respects the rights of the children". Welsh Government (28 February 2022) Children's rights in Wales. https://gov.wales/childrens-rigths-in-wales (Accessed 25 April 2022). "Play provion should be Welcoming and accessible to every child, irrespective of gender, sexual orientation, economic or social circumstances, ethnic or cultural background or origin, or individual abilities". School play policy (Accessed 26 April 2022) (No date). Children can do this from following their interests, ideas and their own way of reasoning. Freedom will be influenced by PILES because children will be able to explore the outdoors, this will give them freedom as they would be given independence to play in an open space. Socially they would be free to choose who they want to play with. The Healthy Schools Wales programme would be supported through physical fitness as it includes mile a day walks to ensure that children are getting the correct amount of exercise. Team working would be included in relation to PILES because the child would be looked at holistically and compared to the foundation phase. They would then work as part of a team by communicating how the child is developing holistically and they would bring in the relevant people if the child needed support. As part of the seven core aims children should be provided with time to experience a sense of adventure and risk. Activities to support this could be an obstacle course, this would then give a child freedom as well as they could build and complete this independently with supervision.

Health visitors would be in Flying start settings. They will then be promoting effective communication, as their job is to assess a child's overall health and well-being and see how the child is developing holistically. They will then communicate any worries or areas for improvement back with the practitioner. Parents would also be informed of this to ensure good practice. "Play is so critically important to all children in the development of their mental and emotional health to support it and create an environment that fosters it". Welsh Government (2014) Wales a play free country (2014) https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-07/wales-a-play-free-country.pdf (Accessed 26 April 2022). Equality is supported with this as all children have the opportunity to play and should be treated as equals. Child centred practice would allow children to have freedom. Montessori would support this because adults do not intervene with the play and it is giving children options of what they as individuals want to do. The materials are self correcting so this enables children to see their own mistakes and resolve the problem independently. Finally children are free to move around the room so this gives them a sense of freedom as they can change areas as much as they want. By doing this it will help them to become independent so they do not have to rely on others.
Words 780

Task 4: Consider how relevant theories, legislation or frameworks (as appropriate) have influenced practice **(700 Words)**

Your evidence should include clear links to:

- How the legislation, theories or frameworks have influenced practice in the settings you have experienced **(14 Marks)**

I am going to consider how relevant theories, legislation and frameworks have influenced practice. The foundation phase definitely has an impact on practice because it aims to ensure "children enjoy the best possible physical and mental, social and emotional health". Welsh Government (2015) Foundation Phase Framework https://hwb.gov.wales/api/storage/d5d8e39c-b534-40cb-a3f5-7e2e126d8077/foundation-phase-framework.pdf (Accessed 26 April). In practice this is then included a lot because children have plenty of opportunities to play outside, which then helps their all round physical health, as children have the opportunity to use their gross motor skills when running. Settings have also ensured P.E sessions, as this then helps the children to understand the importance of physical fitness as well as being able to improve things such as balance as dance sessions could be included where children would take the time to participate in. Well-being is also a huge part of the schools curriculum as they allow time for children's yoga and they provide opportunities for children to participate in breathing techniques. This then helps to clear their mind and makes them feel more relaxed to engage in learning. Children are provided with plenty of time to spend with others. This would include in groups, where children may complete jigsaws together or they may play together in the role play corner where there could be a customer and a shopkeeper and then children would then be encouraged to communicate together and improve social skills such as sharing and taking turns to listen. Practitioners and settings have included emotional health as a part of the children's practice as they have different books on emotions that children would be able to access whenever they wanted and they would also have emotion dolls which a child could share together and express how they are feeling and why they are feeling that particular emotion. It also mentions "Have access to play, leisure, sporting and cultural activities". In the setting they allow plenty of time for free play, where children get to decide what they want to do. They also have a lot of different choices to choose from and they also allow time for outdoor play to give children a sense of freedom.

Flying start aims to improve children's chances and gives them a flying start when they go to school. This would be supported in the setting by enabling them to play, socialise and share experiences in a fun and safe environment. They also learn welsh and the main focus of the program is to promote language, cognitive, social and emotional skills and physical development. All of these would be supported because children will have the chance to talk to other children and they will also be able to complete problem solving tasks such as jigsaw puzzles. They will also be able to develop cognitive skills as they may be threading beads on a string.
Elinor Goldschmied mentions it is through handling and exploring these objects such as natural materials that children develop contact with the outside world and begin to make their own choices and decisions. Natural materials such as sticks, leaves and pine cones are used a lot in settings. Children often go to collect a lot of these materials and they then create things like bug hotels with

them. This is then helping children to connect with the outside world as they have been introduced to going outside to explore and look for materials. This can then help them make decisions as they may choose carefully what size and shape stick they will collect.

The curriculum for Wales guidance aims for "schools to start thinking about designing their own curriculum". Welsh Government (2020) Curriculum for Wales Guidance. https://hwb.gov.wales/api/storage/afca43eb-5c50-4846-9c2d-od56fbffbba09/curriculum-for-wales-guidance-120320.pdf (Accessed 25 April 2022). Practitioners allow children to have a voice and will include them in the planning. They will do this by asking children's interests and including some of them in the play sessions such as a dinosaur theme. This is then making the curriculum unique to the school.

Children in Wales have the "right to be safe to play". Welsh Government (28 February 2022) Children's Rights in Wales https://gov.wales/childrens-rights-in-wales Schools support this well by giving children different play opportunities in different environments such as in the classroom and outside. They also have the right to be safe. Practitioners would allow children to take risks but they would also risk assess any play environment to ensure the children are not going to be at risk.
Words 753

Task 5: Assess how having knowledge of the selected topic and related theories and legislation can be used to bring about change **(1000 words)**

Your evidence must:

- demonstrate an awareness of new and developing practice approaches
- refer to a range of settings within the sector
- make judgements that link practice with theory (topic focus, related theories and legislation)
- make suggestions for future change that could be adopted in practice to support children's care, play, learning and development.
- evidence must refer to research undertaken and must relate to experiences in practice **(20 Marks)**

I will assess knowledge related to theories and legislation to bring about change. Some developing practice approaches to help a vehicle for learning could be to develop a flying start in life and the best possible basis for future growth and development. A flying start setting would support this as they would prepare children for school. In order to help them get ready they would encourage independence and they would also give them lots of time to play as this can help them develop holistically. As well as this they would give children routines, which play can support because the children will get to know the play times throughout the day. I think this is important as it gets children ready for school life and gives them a head start. Song time or rhymes may also be sung in order to help them with their language and communication. Montessori is an approach that links in with a vehicle to learn as this can help children to develop their senses. An activity to reinforce this would be a sensory spice kit as this encourages problem solving, allows children to explore different scents and it also allows them to develop fine motor skills. Sensory activities are used a lot in day nurseries as they would do jelly play, or foam in the tuff tray. This is to ensure children have a new experience. I agree with the Montessori approach because its main focus is independence which is essential. The New curriculum is definitely changing as they are now trying to give schools more control over how they teach the children, as the curriculum will not tell the schools exactly what to teach in their lessons. Instead they will be working with other schools and use guidance which other teachers have written to help. In practice I have seen them asking about children's interests and allowing the child to have a voice. Welsh Government (2020) Curriculum for Wales Guidance. https://hwb.gov.wales/api/storage/afca43eb-5c50-4846-9c2d-od56fbffbba09/curriculum-for-wales-guidance-120320.pdf (Accessed 25 April 2022). Another change it reinforces is the process of exploring and revisiting. By doing this it will enable learners to develop deeper knowledge. An example of this that I have seen in settings could be when they learn the definition of weight and measurement but then they could develop this deeper through play as they could develop the concept of pouring water and could

understand about weight. I believe that the new curriculum is beneficial because it gives children more freedom and it makes it easier as they have options. Janet Moyles' approach is included in schools and impacts how children play as her theory is how children play freely and they play in a more structured way to then play freely again. In settings I have seen children playing freely when they are constructing a house using blankets and wood. This gives them independence and strengthens their imagination as they are creative. Teachers would then give them a guide or model the play, making relevant suggestions. Children would then be able to play again having learned new skills. Skyteach (2019) The play spiritual approach https://skyteach.ru/2019/06/24the-play-spiral-approach/ (Accessed 26 April 2022). I think her approach helps children a lot because they are given freedom which is crucial as it can help them to develop leadership skills. They will then be taught skills to strengthen their play as they will have a better understanding so they can then play independently again with a higher level of knowledge.

The Well-being of future generations act contributes to schools. Children's well-being is becoming a bigger problem so schools are doing whatever they can to help with this, which means their wellbeing is maximised. One of the goals is to achieve a healthier wales. To ensure this, schools allow time for yoga, which then enables the child to concentrate to improve their well-being. Another goal would be a more equal Wales, which means allowing everyone to receive the same opportunities. I have seen this in practice where practitioners could adapt the play environment so a child in a wheelchair could access the different play areas as well. Welsh Government (2015) Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act https://www.futuregenerations.wales/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/150623-guide-to-the-fg-act-en.pdf (Accessed 25 April 2022). This is ensuring that it is inclusive to all children. Play is recognised as a Child's Right according to the UNCRC. However this has changed a lot in the covid pandemic as it has seriously impacted children's opportunity to play. This would have then affected a child's well-being as they would not have the chance to explore the outdoor world. It would also affect their social interactions as they wouldn't be able to play and communicate with others. Emotional health would have a huge knock on effect because of this as children would have felt isolated as they could not express feelings or emotions to each other. https://www.parentingforbrain.com/benefits-play-learning-activities-early-childhood/ (Accessed 26 April 2022). In the curriculum for Wales it aims to develop the capacity of children to navigate life's opportunities and challenges. Play supports this by building a child's resilience and motivation. This can be done through painting. If a child then spills water on the paper and it tears an opportunity is then provided for them to bounce back and overcome the challenge. This then helps their well-being as it creates a strong individual so the child is ready to overcome the obstacles that life has to offer. The child Act supports play and well-being as they have a right to be happy, safe and to play.

Many programmes contribute to the approaches that the school makes. The Healthy Schools Wales Programme would be part of this. It has an aim to improve the overall health of children. The school would ensure they include the mile a day, where the children would walk a mile to improve their physical health. Health is becoming a bigger problem that schools have to take into consideration. The main reason they introduced this programme was to try and tackle the level of obesity and to ensure all children remain a healthy weight. A school policy mentions the importance of allowing children to take risks to develop the ability to judge risks and learn new skills. Change would have been made to this because over time there has been more evidence to show that children should be exposed to a certain amount of risk. When I went to forest school, in placement children were allowed to toast marshmallows on the fire with adult supervision, so this would be an example of a risk. School play policy (Accessed 26 April 2022) (No date). The health and safety act would also support this because it ensures the child is safe as the child is the main priority.
Words 1143

Task 6: Discuss how your research and learning will support your own individual practice moving forward. **(600 words)**

Your evidence must:

- a reflection of the value or benefits of what you have learnt as part of investigating the

- topic and focus areas
- what you would like to do, based on your findings, to improve your own future practice
- reference to any impact changes to your own practice could have on the practice of others.

(12 marks)

In the final section I will discuss how my research and learning will support my practice in the future. In this investigation I have learned the importance of play and how current policies, legislation and initiatives influence practice. I have learned that play can build resilience as they are given plenty of opportunities to cope with change and challenging situations. It was interesting to find out that children can learn through first hand experiences with the serious business of play providing the vehicle and that it can not be taught. It allows children to get involved. Play was an essential part of children performing academically better. Free play is essential to give the child a sense of freedom. The practitioner could then teach children skills so they can then go off independently to play again but they will then be able to discover more and feel more confident. I also learned how play can help wellbeing as it can improve their overall mood. Creativity is essential to develop which can be done through play as they would be able to express ideas on paper and use their imagination to create a picture uniquely.

Research and learning impacted a vehicle for learning as I found out that the most effective way to learn is through first hand experiences. Children will be able to visualise information such as numeracy and they will be able to develop the concept of adding through objects such as cars. Well-being has also been impacted because play is the foundation to healthy well-being as it provides children with opportunities to express themselves such as emotionally or socially. Finally PILES would be impacted because nature gives children the chance to explore and learn new skills and help their overall holistic development.

In the future to improve my practice I would give children a range of areas to choose from in order for them to develop holistically. This would include a lot of natural materials so children will be able to develop their senses. I would also change some areas such as the role play corner frequently to give children a sense of variety and change, as they will then be able to explore different things so they are getting the most out of their play. I would also let children have a voice as I learned the importance of children having their say. This could be involved in the planning of play sessions to incorporate children' interests which makes it more fun and enjoyable to play. By doing this it would also be child-led practice as the child gets to have an opinion. In the future I will consider well-being in planning so children can learn the importance of their well-being and learn how to ensure they are doing their best to look after themselves.

In the future if I made any changes to practice such making the play environment more child-led by bringing things into the classroom that they would all like to see, other staff or schools could then get inspiration from this and then want to use this themselves. I could also change the role play area every term such as from a sweetshop to a school. This may then give other staff the idea to develop on so ideas could be shared in order to create the best practice.

Words 555

Total word count including quotes 5201

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