

Theories Underpinning the EYFS

This course looks at the psychological theories of early childhood learning and development that inform the Early Years Foundation Stage. It refreshes the knowledge and understanding of level 3 and above qualified practitioners and provides an introduction to psychological theories of learning and development to those who are new to the early years sector. It outlines the interrelationships of physical, emotional and cognitive factors in a child's early development and considers the early years practitioner's role in supporting young children's secure attachment, learning and development.



Course details

- Level 2 course (as graded against the nationally accepted levels)
- One module with a multiple-choice questionnaire
- One CPD credit*
- Optional narration of the course module and questionnaire for accessibility
- Personalised downloadable certificate
- 70% pass mark
- Printable module for future reference

*1 CPD credit equals up to 1 hour of learning

Course content

The Early Years Foundation stage (EYFS)

- Overarching principles and main sections
- Learning and development elements

The development of the young brain

- Development of the young brain from ages 0-5
- Dr Dan Siegal's: The brain in your hand
- Key parts of the brain
- The developing cerebral cortex
- The importance of making connections within the brain
- The relevance of brain development to the EYFS

How children learn

- Characteristics of learning in the young brain
- The relevance of how children learn to the EYFS

Attachment

- The importance of relationships in children's learning
- The relevance of attachment to the EYFS

Developmental psychology theories of learning

- Universal stage theories
 - Mary Sheridan – developmental milestones
 - Jean Piaget – three main stages of cognitive development
 - The relevance of universal stage theories of development to the EYFS
- Constructivist theories
 - Margaret Donaldson – learning is a 'holistic' process
 - Lev Vygotsky - the Zone of Proximal Development
 - Jerome Bruner - 'scaffolding' learning
 - Uri Bronfenbrenner - the 'ecological model'
 - Erik Erikson - psychosocial development
 - The relevance of constructivist theories to the EYFS

Summary

- Key learning points

This course is suitable for

Members of the Pre-school Learning Alliance and early years practitioners.

Key features

- Visually engaging and highly interactive
- Answer explanations for those who achieve the pass mark
- Additional resources to expand learning
- Optional narration of the module and questionnaire
- Written by experts at the Pre-school Learning Alliance



Contents

2 Dr Dan Siegal's: The brain in your hand

Introduction **Brain stem** Limbic brain Cerebrum

Dr Dan Siegal's handy brain anatomy model is a popular and easy way of visualising and remembering the major components of the brain.

Click on the tabs above for more information.

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4 The relevance of attachment to the EYFS

- Personal, social, emotional development is one of the prime areas of development. The aim is for children to be self-confident and self-aware; they can manage their feelings and behaviours and make positive relationships with peers and adults. Page 11
- The EYFS requires each child to be assigned a key person. The role is to 'help the child become familiar with the setting, offer a settled relationship for the child and build a relationship with the parents'. Also, the key person must ensure that the child's learning and care is tailored to meet their individual needs'. Section 3.27 Section 1.10

Click the switch to see the EYFS references.

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5 Developmental Milestones 2-6 years

Click the pictures for information about each age.

Age (yrs)	Gross Motor	Fine Motor Adaptive	Personal-Social	Language	Cognitive
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kicks a ball • Walks up and down stairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stacks six blocks • Copies to draw a line 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feeds doll • Washes and dries hands • Brushes teeth • Puts on clothes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put two words together • Points to a picture • Knows body parts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands concept of today

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Question 7

The quality of a child's attachment is linked with their...
(Choose two options)

- a) social and emotional development
- b) physical development
- c) sense of self, confidence and emotional intelligence

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

← Q7 →

Why choose us?



“ The training you provide is fantastic, we use the training for staff meetings and for updating our committee. Absolutely brilliant, we use the training all the time. We wouldn't be without it. ”

Rebecca Cox
Manager, Cholsey Pre-School

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