

ECE210 Advocacy and Collaborations with Families

Level: 2

Credit Units: 5 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY JAN

Synopsis:

ECE210 Advocacy and Collaborations with Families introduces students to the changing family structures within the sociocultural context of a globalising and multicultural Singapore society. The aim of this course is to develop a positive set of dispositions towards working with families of diverse backgrounds and cultural beliefs in sensitive and respectful ways, while advocating for the best interests of young children. As such, the course also provides a basic set of collaborative strategies as well as the necessary thinking tools for teachers to generate further ideas for building trusting relationships and promoting a collaborative culture within their own preschool communities.

Topics:

- Diverse family structures in contemporary multicultural Singapore
- Respecting different cultural beliefs and values in child-rearing practices
- Supporting families in their children's multiple transitions
- Understanding barriers to parent involvement
- Developing family-centred care and education programmes
- Partnership strategies with different types of families
- Communicating with families effectively and respectfully
- Informative newsletters and other forms of print communications
- Promoting collaborative relationships among colleagues and partnering with health, educational and social services within the community
- Personal advocacy and public advocacy strategies
- Initiating collaborative relationships within the larger educational community
- Professional code of ethics – local and international guidelines

Textbooks:

Couchenour, D., & Chrisman, Kent: Families, schools and communities: Together for young children (5th ed.) <eBook> 5 Cengage
ISBN-13: 9789814844758

Learning Outcome:

- Explain how changing family structures influence child development and learning in Singapore.
- Examine common barriers to home-school collaboration.
- Discuss what it means to be an advocate and professional working with families with young children.
- Illustrate ways to improve collaborative relationships between home and school.
- Analyse early childhood centres' practices in advocating for and collaborating with families.
- Respond constructively to an early childhood education related issue reported in the media.

Assessment Strategies - Regular Semester (Evening Class):

Components	Description	Weightage Allocation (%)
Overall Continuous Assessment	PRE-CLASS QUIZ 1	5
	TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT 1	40
	DISCUSSION BOARD 1	5
Overall Examinable Components	ECA	50
Total		100

*The information listed is subject to review and change.