

WSQ Professional Diploma in Early Childhood Care and Education

	Module Name		Module Synopsis
1	Principles & Practices in Early Childhood Care and Education		This module will assist students in knowing the philosophy and goals of ECCE both universally and in the context of Singapore. It will also assist them in having an understanding of the historical and philosophical perspectives on ECCE in the Asian and Western contexts as well as approaches to and models of ECCE. In addition, students will experience an opportunity to examine and discuss the desired outcomes of a quality preschool education, the smooth transition of preschool children into the national education system and other issues related to the care and education of young children in Singapore.
2	Child Development & Learning	Growth & Development in Young Children (birth to 8 years)	Caring for young children requires love, care and patience. It also requires an in-depth knowledge of how children grow, learn and develop so that Early Childhood educators can understand and respond to them appropriately. This Module will therefore introduce students to the major theories and research in child development from birth to 8 years. Growth and development in the various domains (namely, physical, intellectual, emotional and social) will be traced and discussed.
		Understanding How Young Children Learn	This module will introduce students to theories and research which underpins the teaching practices and learning styles in the ECCE classroom. Students will discuss the importance and role of “play” in meeting the needs of the individual child. They will also attempt to reconcile the philosophy and goals of preschool education with the aspirations and expectations of parents for their young children.
		Understanding Children’s Behaviour	There is a spectrum of children’s behaviour varying from mild misbehaviour to serious behaviour disorders, and there are also reasons for each and every one of these behaviours. With children spending most part of their day in an Early Childhood setting, many parents are relying more and more on teachers to identify, manage and solve their children’s behaviour. However, while teachers can help, no intervention programme can succeed without the involvement, participation and support of parents. Students will be presented with case studies on the different behaviour and then, asked to discuss and suggest possible reasons, and appropriate and positive strategies for them. They will also be asked to look beyond the child and see how external factors such as the physical environment,

			curriculum, teacher's pedagogy and peers can affect children's behaviour.
		Understanding Children with Special Needs	This module will assist students in identifying different types of exceptional or special needs. It will also introduce trainees to their cognitive, physical, social and emotional characteristics; and their educational considerations.
		Observing Young Children	This module will introduce students to the different methods of observing and recording children's behaviour. Trainees will discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each method. They will then carry out a child study where they will observe, record and make simple inferences and recommendations based on their observations of a child in a centre-based programme.
		Assessing & Evaluating Children's Development	This module will introduce students to the different methods of assessing and evaluating young children's development. Trainees will examine and discuss the different methods, and select methods which are suitable for use with young children. They will also learn the importance of introducing timely and appropriate intervention programmes to meet the needs of young children in their critical years.
3	Curriculum Planning and Pedagogy	Designing Environments for Children	This module focuses on designing developmentally appropriate and stimulating physical environments for young children in centre-based programmes (child care centres & kindergartens). Students will learn how to plan and equip the classroom to support children's development. They will also learn how to organize the indoor and outdoor space to meet the needs of children, parents and teachers in the centre.
		The Language Arts Curriculum	This module will train students in designing a developmentally and culturally appropriate curriculum to support young children's language acquisition and literacy development in centre-based programmes. Students will learn how to plan, implement and evaluate language experiences and interactions for different age groups (18 months to 6 years). They will also learn how to organise the classroom environment to support the Language Arts curriculum.
		The Numeracy Curriculum	This module will train students in designing a developmentally and culturally appropriate curriculum to support young children's numeracy skills in centre-based programmes, including harnessing on the importance of including Parents and the Community in the Mathematics curriculum. Students will learn how to plan, implement and evaluate numeracy activities for different age groups (18 months to 6 years). They will also learn how to organise the classroom environment to support the numeracy curriculum.

		<p>The Discovery of the World Curriculum</p>	<p>This module will train students in designing a developmentally and culturally appropriate curriculum to support young children’s scientific process skills in centre-based programmes. Students will learn how to plan, implement and evaluate interesting and stimulating science experiences for different age groups (18 months to 6 years). They will also learn how to organise the classroom environment to support the Discovery of World Curriculum.</p>
		<p>The Visual Arts Curriculum</p>	<p>This Module will train students in designing a developmentally and culturally appropriate curriculum to support young children’s artistic process skills in centre-based programmes. Students will learn how to plan, implement and evaluate interesting and stimulating art experiences for different age groups (18 months to 6 years). They will also learn how to organise the classroom environment to support the Visual Arts curriculum. In addition, for a better appreciation of and more effective Visual Arts programme, trainees will participate in various Art activities and visit the Singapore Art Museum on a guided tour.</p>
		<p>The Performing Arts Curriculum</p>	<p>This Module will train students in designing a developmentally and culturally appropriate curriculum to support young children’s performing arts skills in centre-based programmes. Students will learn how to plan, implement and evaluate interesting and stimulating performing art experiences (music, movement and drama) for different age groups (18 months to 6 years). They will also learn how to organise the classroom environment to support the Performing Arts.</p>
		<p>The Physical Education Curriculum</p>	<p>This module will assist students in designing a developmentally and culturally appropriate Physical Education (PE) curriculum for young children in centre-based programmes. Students will learn how to plan, implement and evaluate interesting and stimulating physical activities for different age groups (18 months to 6 years). They will also learn how to organise the environment to support the PE curriculum.</p>
		<p>The Multicultural Education Curriculum</p>	<p>This module will assist students in designing a developmentally appropriate Multicultural Education programme for young children in centre-based programmes. Students will learn how to plan, implement and evaluate interesting and stimulating Multicultural Education activities for different age groups (18 months to 6 years). They will also learn how to organise the environment to support the Multicultural Education curriculum. In addition, students will be provided with opportunities to review and reflect on their own beliefs and practices throughout the module.</p>

		Information, Communication Technology & the Integrated Curriculum	This module assist trainees in designing a developmentally and culturally appropriate ICT programme for young children in centre-based programmes (child care centres & kindergartens). Students will learn how to plan, implement and evaluate interesting and stimulating ICT activities for different age groups (18 months to 6 years). They will also learn how to organise the environment to support the ICT curriculum.
		Planning an Integrated Programme	This module will assist trainees in consolidating their previous knowledge and skills to plan a developmentally appropriate and cultural programme which integrates learning experiences for young children. Students will learn how to plan, implement and evaluate interesting and stimulating integrated learning experiences for the different age groups (18 months to 6 years). They will also learn how to organize the environment to support the programme.
		Integrating Children with Special Needs	This module will assist students in assessing and identifying the needs of children with additional learning needs. It also assists to evaluate and plan various intervention strategies, methods and programmes designed to meet the children's needs.
4	Personal Growth & Professional	Personal Growth & Professional Development	This module will assist students to grow and develop both as a person and as a professional. Trainees will embark on some self-evaluation and soul-searching to take stock of their work and life in an attempt to identify their interests, abilities and needs in order to sustain joy and satisfaction in caring and educating young children.
		Professional Training (Communication Skills, Teamwork & Teambuilding Skills, Networking, Creative Thinking, Speech Training, Counselling Skills	This module will assist students to acquire professional skills that are necessary to provide the best care and education for children in their early years.
5	Safety, Health, Hygiene & Nutrition		This module will assist students to understand the importance of providing young children with a safe and hygienic environment as well as healthy and nutritious meals.
6	Partnership with Families and the Community		Teachers and other caregivers are important in the care and education of young children. However, teachers need to remember that parents are children's first educators, and that teachers need to involve them in the programmes of the Centre. Reaching out to the community also provides teachers with a vital source of support for their Centre's programme. Hence, partnership with Families and the Community can

		provide teachers with great opportunities and avenues to meet the individual needs of young children.
7	Supervised Teaching Practice	This module will assist students to understand the importance of building partnerships with Families and the Community. Students will explore and discuss ways to build partnerships with Families and the Community to reach out and support them as well to involve them and gain their support for the Centre' programme. Students will review and reflect on their role as "bridges" between the children and Centre, and Families and the Community, as well as between Families and the Community.

Updated as of June 2017