PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM TOOL: FOCUS ON CORE KNOWLEDGE AND COMPETENCIES

This tool was developed to serve as a guide for commencing development or revision of a State/Territory core knowledge and competencies document. It is divided into three planning areas: core knowledge areas, levels, and additional sections/formats. The listed core knowledge areas are not meant to be exhaustive but to support discussions about ways to categorize content; combining and/or extending the listed areas is encouraged. Bulleted examples of possible specifics under the core areas are included and may contribute to the development of competencies.

AREA	SPECIFICS	STATUS	PRIORITY RANKING	COMMENTS/NOTES
CORE KNOWLEDGE AREAS	**Health, safety, and nutrition** • Wellness promotion • Equipment and material maintenance and safety • Child abuse and neglect • Other:			
	Child growth and development • Culture and background • Language and literacy • Social and emotional • Physical • Cognitive • Other:			

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AREA	SPECIFICS	STATUS	PRIORITY RANKING	COMMENTS/NOTES
CORE KNOWLEDGE AREAS, con.	**Teaching and learning** • Curriculum design and implementation • Learning and care environment • Relationships and guidance • Other:			
	Observation, documentation, and assessment • Principles of observation, documentation, and assessment • Assessment tools and uses • Documentation practices • Other:			
	Family and community relationships • Family structures and cultures • Communication methods and policies • Community resources • Other:			

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AREA	SPECIFICS	STATUS	PRIORITY RANKING	COMMENTS/NOTES
CORE KNOWLEDGE AREAS, con.	**Early childhood field/profession** • Professional development • Ethics and professional standards • Policy and advocacy • Leadership development • Regulations and quality standards • Other:			
	Administration/Program management • Business/Administration • Legal and fiscal issues • Organizational management/personnel management and supervision • Facility management • Regulations, policies, and quality standards • Evaluation • Other:			

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AREA	SPECIFICS	STATUS	PRIORITY RANKING	COMMENTS/NOTES
CORE KNOWLEDGE AREAS, con.	Children with special needs (often incorporated in other areas)			
	Diversity issues (often incorporated in other areas)			
	School-age children (often incorporated in other areas)			
	Infants and toddlers (often incorporated in other areas)			
	Other:			
	Other:			

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AREA	SPECIFICS	STATUS	PRIORITY RANKING	COMMENTS/NOTES
LEVELS	Levels of knowledge and skill acquisition			
	Illustrated alignment with career lattice			
	Other:			
ADDITIONAL SECTIONS/FORMAT	Introduction/Purpose of document/why and how developed			
	Framework/How document is set up			
	How content is being used in the professional development system			

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AREA	SPECIFICS	STATUS	PRIORITY RANKING	COMMENTS/NOTES
ADDITIONAL SECTIONS/FORMAT, con.	How core knowledge areas link with other standards			
	Rationale for each core knowledge area			
	Indicators/Practice examples/vignettes			
	Multiple languages as appropriate/other language versions			
	Other:			
	Other:			

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