Title
Demonstrate knowledge of, and implement, observation techniques in an ECE service

Level 5
Credits 6

Purpose
People credited with this unit standard are able to: describe the purpose of observation in an ECE service; explain the ethical and legal requirements of observation in an ECE service; describe a variety of observation techniques applicable to an ECE service; implement observation techniques in an ECE service; and evaluate the observation techniques in an ECE service.

This unit standard is designed for people who intend to work, or are working with, children in ECE services. People working in the wider education sector may also be interested in this unit standard. This unit standard will prepare people to advance to a higher level of study in ECE.

Classification
Early Childhood Education and Care > Early Childhood: Educational Theory and Practice

Available grade
Achieved

Guidance Information
1 An early childhood education (ECE) service may include a centre-based service, hospital-based service, or home-based service. The home-based service may be nominated by the child’s parent, be the child’s own home, or the home of the educator. Evidence of one type of service is required.

2 Three ‘broad age groups’ are defined in Te Whāriki for children. These are overlapping age categories and are defined as:
infant – birth to 18 months;
toddler – one year to three years;
young child – two and a half years to school entry age.

3 Candidates for this unit standard should be familiar with the intent of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, which informs guidelines, procedures, and practices in the ECE sector.

4 Definition
Whānau/families may be parents, guardians, or members of the extended family who have an interest in the child.
Observation techniques may be diary records, anecdotal records, running records, time sampling, incident sampling, learning stories, digital recording, event recording, duration recording, photographs.

5 Legislation and Conventions include but are not limited to:
- Care of Children Act 2004
- Children, Young Persons, and Their Families Act 1989
- Education Act 1989
- Education (Early Childhood Services) Regulations 2008
- Privacy Act 1993
- Vulnerable Children Act 2014
- and subsequent amendments.

6 References

**Outcomes and performance criteria**

**Outcome 1**

Describe the purpose of observation in an ECE service.

**Performance criteria**

1.1 Description relates the purpose of observation to the provision of opportunities to create an optimum learning environment in an ECE service.

Range opportunities include but are not limited to – learning, health, safety, resources.

**Outcome 2**

Explain the ethical and legal requirements of observation of children in an ECE service.

Range evidence of one child, or of children as a whole group, is required.

**Performance criteria**

2.1 Ethical requirements of observing children in an ECE service are explained in terms of their purpose.
2.2 Ethics of observation of children are explained in terms of their links to the policies and practices of the ECE service.

2.3 Ethics of observation of children are explained in terms of the values and legal rights of a child or children and their whānau/families.

**Outcome 3**

Describe a variety of observation techniques applicable to an ECE service.

Range evidence of at least five different observation techniques is required.

**Performance criteria**

3.1 Observation techniques are described in terms of their purpose and methodology.

3.2 Observation techniques are explained in terms of their applicability to different situations.

Range evidence of three situations is required.

**Outcome 4**

Implement observation techniques in an ECE service.

Range evidence of at least five different observation techniques is required.

**Performance criteria**

4.1 Observation techniques are implemented that match the purpose of the observation and the type of ECE service.

4.2 Observation techniques are implemented to meet identified ethical and cultural requirements of the whānau/families in the ECE service.

Range evidence of one type of whānau/families is required.

**Outcome 5**

Evaluate the observation techniques in an ECE service.

Range evidence of at least five different observation techniques is required.

**Performance criteria**

5.1 Observation techniques used in the ECE service are evaluated in terms of the influence of self; and the relationship between the observation techniques and the philosophical, policy, and practice guidelines of the ECE service.
This unit standard is expiring. Assessment against the standard must take place by the last date for assessment set out below.

### Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

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**Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference** 0135