

Aistear, the Early Childhood Curriculum Framework

Aistear is a curriculum framework for children from birth to six years in Ireland. It provides information to help adults plan for and provide enjoyable and challenging learning experiences so that all children can grow and develop as competent and confident learners. Aistear describes the types of learning (dispositions, values and attitudes, skills, knowledge, and understanding) that are important for children in their early years, and offers ideas and suggestions for how this learning might be nurtured in children. The Framework also provides guidelines on supporting children's learning through partnerships with parents, interactions, play, and assessment. Aistear uses four themes, Well-being, Communicating, Identity and Belonging and Exploring and Thinking, which connect and overlap with each other to outline children's learning and development.

