

Assessment practices in the early years – shaping children's identity and early childhood professionalism

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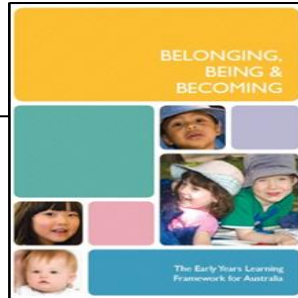
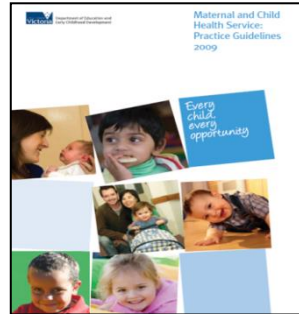
Catherine Blackford

Professional learning – network based

- Professional inquiry
- Reflective practice
- Assessment evidence
- Learning communities and peer support
- Contemporary knowledge



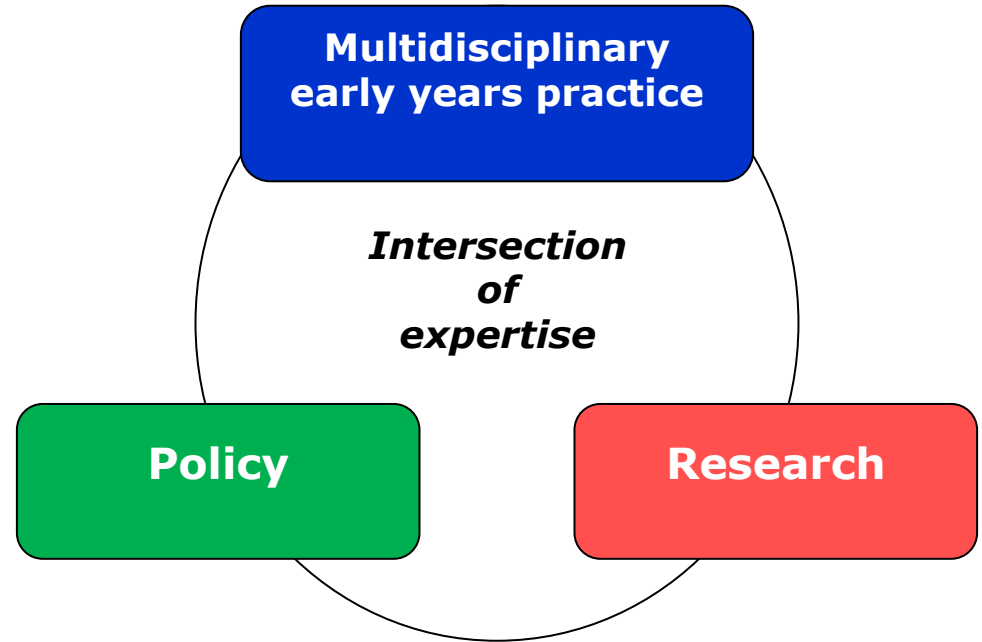
Learning frameworks – Victorian context and connections



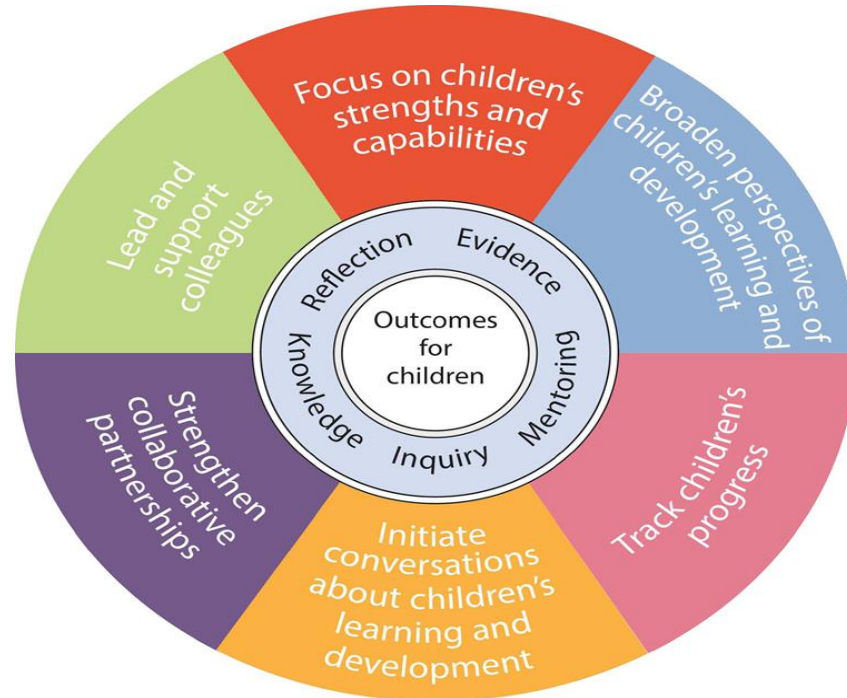
Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority™

Professional identity

- Sustained focus on professional inquiry
- Using the VEYLDF and frameworks with a focus on assessment practice
- New relationships with children, families and colleagues



Assessment for learning and development: practice approaches



Professional identity

- Insights into practice of others
- Extended joint professional dialogue
- Practitioners and parents working together



Children's identity as learners

- 'Wondering along side' and 'being with'
- Developing shared understanding about learning

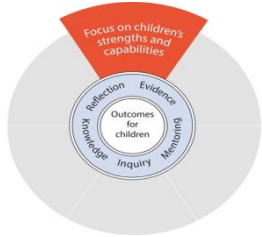


Professional identity

- Extending connections in local network
- Critical reflection in teams



Children's identity as learners



- Focus on strengths and capabilities
- Viewing children's capacity for learning

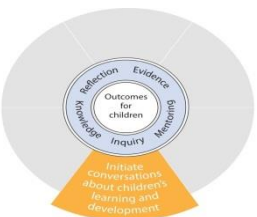


Professional identity

- Leadership and advocacy
- Intentional focus
- Responsive relationships



Children's identity as learners



- Paying attention 'in the moment'
- Learning conversations with children
- Requires time, focus and practise



Professional identity

- Sustained focus on inquiry learning
- Promoting a collective vision
- Integrated practice across the early years



Children's identity as learners



- Building learners as thinkers
- Confident and involved learners
- Relationship with families



Relationships within networks

- Sustainable multidisciplinary practice
- Assess children's progress
- Adapt tools and resources
- Collaborative approaches
- Continuous quality improvement

Resources

VCAA Early Years webpage

www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/earlyyears/index.aspx

DEECD Early Childhood webpage

www.education.vic.gov.au/childhood/Pages/default.aspx

Further information

Early Years Unit

Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority Authority (VCAA)

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