

Subject Rationale – Child Development

‘early education is the key to betterment of society’ - Maria Montessori

The foundation of the subject is understanding the importance of the roles and responsibilities of parenthood and the development of a child from conception to 5 years old. We look at the factors couples need to consider when thinking of starting a family and ensuring that they are ready and are able to cope with the long-lasting responsibilities of parenthood. Students should understand the demands of parenthood and the impact this can have on the development of the child.

Students will be able to develop knowledge, understanding and technical skills throughout the areas of child development and be able to apply these to scenarios within early years settings. Students will gain knowledge and understanding of topics that are important to the early years, such as the importance of play and how child friendly environments help to stimulate and support this. By studying child development students will be learning about societal influences, which enables students to gain insight into all of the challenges, excitement and responsibilities surrounding children’s development. Child Development students are the future leaders of children’s early education.

This course has both practical and theoretical elements to it. Students will learn the critical skills of critical analysis, evaluation and decision making. They will participate in practical and theory elements which will teach them to become independent learners and encourage self-confidence.