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Preface

The Comprehensive Child Development Service (CCDS), perviously known as Head Start Programme on Child Development, was announced in the 2005 policy address. CCDS aims at early identification and provision of timely support to needy children and families through interdisciplinary and cross-sectorial collaboration of the existing educational, medical and social services. One of the components of this service is identificaton of pre-primary children with physical, developmental and behavioural problems. A referral system is set up to refer them for assessment so that timely and appropriate intervention and training services can be arranged. Apart from collaboration of different parties, involvement of pre-primary school teachers are indispensable. Other than parents, pre-primary teachers have close contact with children. They can easily identify children's problems and difficulties and arrange early referral and follow-up.

The Family Health Service of the Department of Health collaborated with the Education Bureau and the Social Welfare Department to develop this Pre-primary Children Development and Behaviour Management - Teacher Resource Kit. This Resource Kit aims to equip pre-primary teachers with a better understanding of the referral system (Chapter 1). Through introducing the developmental characteristics (Chapter 2) and common developmental and learning problems of pre-primary children (Chapter 3), the Resource Kit enables teachers to identify needy children and promptly refer them for assessment. Taking into account that parents may have different emotional responses on knowing the referral, this Resource Kit also suggests skills to facilitate communication with parents (Chapter 4). Moreover, identification and subsequent referral of children with special needs is only the first step. Teachers still need to manage children's problems in the classroom. Strategies and techniques for interpreting and managing individual children's learning, behavioural, emotional and social skills problems are also proposed(Chapters 5 and 6). We hope this can help teachers to achieve more effective teaching and classroom management.

While we are trying to help children with certain developmental and learning problems, we should not neglect their strengths and abilities. Every child is unique and possesses his or her own strengths and weaknesses. We hope to provide a caring environment with acceptance and support, so that children with different characteristics and educational needs can effectively learn and develop their potential.

Pre-primary Children Development and Behaviour
Management - Teacher Resource Kit
Working Committee
2008

Acknowledgements

The completion of this Pre-primary Children Development and Behaviour Management - Teacher Resource Kit is only possible with the support and assistance from different organisations. First, we would like to thank the following pre-primary educational institutions for allowing the production team to observe in classes and collect information:

Annunciation Catholic Kindergarten
The Church of Christ in China Shatin Church Pok Hong Kindergarten
Tsuen Wan Our Lady Kindergarten

(Listed in alphabetical order)

Also, special thanks go to the following pre-primary institutions for providing shooting locations with generous support and assistance during the filming process:

Po Leung Kuk Choi Kai Yau Kindergarten-cum-Nursery
St. Andrew's Catholic Kindergarten
Tai Po Merchants Association Cheung Hok Ming Kindergarten (Tseung Kwan O)

(Listed in alphabetical order)

Our gritudes also go to the teachers and students from the above kindergartens for participating in the filming of “Chapter 2: Development of Pre-Primary Children”. Their involvement and support have enriched the content of this Resource Kit.

We acknowledge the child actors from the production company and their parents for the support and efforts during the filming. These little actors’ performance illustrated lively the different developmental and learning problems of children discussed in “Chapter 3: How to Identify Children with Special Needs”.

In addition, we highly appreciate the expert advice from the professionals of the Child Assessment Service, Department of Health; and Professor Siu Fung Ying Angela of the Department of Educational Psychology, Faculty of Education, the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Last but not least, we would like to thank all colleagues from the Education Bureau, Social Welfare Department and the Department of Health involved for bringing this inter-departmental production to completion. In the spirit of the Comprehensive Child Development Service, we look forward to seeing this Resource Kit being able to support pre-primary teachers in prompt identification and referral of children with special needs, whereas at the same time, provide appropriate assistance for all needy children and families through interdisciplinary and cross-sectorial collaboration.

Guidelines on Using the Resource Kit

Materials

The materials included in this Resource Kit are as follows:

1. Manual (one copy)
2. DVD (one copy, approximately 100 minutes in length)
3. Information leaflets (7 copies)
 - “Understanding Your Child’s Development – For Parents of Preschool Children”
 - “Family Health Service”
 - “Family Health Service, Department of Health – Parenting Programme”
 - “Child Assessment Service”
 - “Integrated Family Service Centre”
 - “Day Child Care Services”
 - “Child Abuse..... It Matters You”

User Guide

1. DVD

The contents of the manual and the DVD are complementary. Teachers may play the DVD at the same time when reading the manual. Please note the designated symbols as below in the manual:



*Refer to DVD Chapter 3

On seeing this symbol (such as under "Common Developmental and Learning Problems" of Chapter 3), watching the related DVD demonstrations helps understand and apply the content in the manual.

2. Information Leaflets

Enclosed in this kit are a number of information leaflets for teachers' reference and duplication. These leaflets are categorized as follows:

i) Introducing Different Services Involved in CCDS

“Family Health Service”

“Family Health Service, Department of Health – Parenting Programme”

“Child Assessment Service”

“Integrated Family Service Centre”

Teachers may refer to the information leaflets for further details when reading the manual about the services of the relevant departments. For example:



For further information on MCHC services, please refer to the information leaflet in the Resource Kit

ii) Introducing Child Care Services

Teachers can utilise the following information leaflet to introduce to parents relevant services:

“Day Child Care Services”

iii) Introducing Information on Children's Development

When teachers recognise any developmental or learning problems in a child and need to propose referrals for assessment to parents, they can provide parents with the following information leaflet for better understanding of their children's conditions:

“Understanding Your Child's Development – For Parents of Preschool Children”

iv) Introducing Information on Child Abuse Issues

The information includes the definition and types of child abuse, the importance of recognising child abuse, and the management of and supports available for any suspected child abuse cases:

“Child Abuse..... It Matters You”

3. Appendices

The appendices of the manual include two major categories of information:

i) Forms and Information of the Referral and Reply System

Teachers can download the referral form from the Education Bureau website and fax the completed form to the Maternal and Child Health Centre (MCHC) in the district. The MCHC will communicate with the kindergarten or child care centre using the interim and final replies after receiving the referral.

Appendix 1: Comprehensive Child Development Service (CCDS) Preschool Referral and Reply - Referral for MCHC Service (Pre-primary Institutions)

Appendix 2: Comprehensive Child Development Service (CCDS) Receipt of Referral for MCHC Service – Interim Reply

Appendix 3: Comprehensive Child Development Service (CCDS) Receipt of Referral for MCHC Service – Final Reply

(Website : <http://www.edb.gov.hk/en/edu-system/preprimary-kindergarten/comprehensive-child-development-service/index.html#Form>)

ii) Management of Children's Learning or Behavioural Problems

Teachers can duplicate the following record forms and information for use in accordance to the manual instructions:

Appendix 4: ABC Behaviour Record

Appendix 5: Behaviour Reward Chart

Appendix 6: Word Games

Appendix 7: Language Games