

Modular programme for Education and Training

# **EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR**

M#3 Inclusive Teaching

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For further information on the EduPASS Project please follow the link:

Website: <a href="https://edupass-project.eu/">https://edupass-project.eu/</a>



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# Six Core Modules of EduPASS for Early Childhood Educators

The following are the proposed six core modules for Early Childhood Educators education and training programmes that were developed as part of the EduPASS Erasmus+ Project. The core modules should be seen as a flexible reference point which require contextual adaptation. Those individuals and/or organisations using the six core modules to develop learning opportunities for Early Childhood Educators should use the knowledge of their specific context to customise the modules to fit their needs, resources and objectives.

Each of the six EduPASS core modules proposed for ECE education and training programmes was developed building on the knowledge and insights, which can be found in the <u>European Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC)</u>. The ECEC describes the most important the proposal for key principles of a <u>Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education and Care (2014)</u>.

The respective module number and order in which the modules are presented in the table below do not indicate that modules must be introduced in this specific order, when implementing an Early Childhood Educator education and training programme. Rather the numbers simply serve as distinct denominators to help identify specific modules in the overall context of the EduPASS ECE education and training programme.

#### **Core Module Overview**

No	Module Title	Description
1	Daily Physical Activity and	The module teaches the theoretical basis of the concept of holistic development of children, focusing on changes experienced by children aged 3 to 6 years.
	Play	It emphasizes the importance of physical activity and play in children's overall development and well-being and highlights the benefits of physical activity during childhood, as well as the potential risks of inactivity on overall health.  Additionally, recommendations for children's physical activity levels,
		strategies for implementation, and the development of skills for assessing the recommended daily physical activity level for children are provided.
		Finally, a theoretical background for developing intervention programs aimed at improving children's daily physical activity levels is presented. It includes practical workshops and the development of skills for designing and implementing programs to enhance children's daily physical activity levels.



2	Principles of Educating Children	This module aims to guarantee the comprehensive development of children through physical education. For this, different learning units, based mainly on the game, will be carried out such as:  • motor stories  • music, dance and movement  • energetic games  • games with balls  • activities that involve balance, development of laterality, coordination and body awareness  • manipulative and construction games			
3	Inclusive Teaching	<ul> <li>The module aims to:         <ul> <li>introduce the theoretical foundations of the concept of inclusion. This includes the legal background (e.g., UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and national legislation), the requirements and goals of inclusion, and didactic models, principles, methods, and strategies for inclusive teaching.</li> <li>provide opportunities to practically apply and reflect about the principles, methods, and resources of inclusive teaching using specific teaching/case scenarios.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>			
4	Fundamental Movement Skills, Play and Motor Skill Assessment	<ul> <li>introduce the theoretical basics of the concept of fundamental movement skills and play and their importance for children. This includes the structure of fundamental movement skills, their role in children's development, and didactic principles and methods to promote fundamental movement skills and play.</li> <li>provide guidance on the practical use of the principles, methods, and resources of teaching/promoting fundamental movement skills and play.</li> <li>introduce both the theoretical knowledge and the practical skills to objectively measure fundamental movement skills of children using motor tests</li> </ul>			
5	Hands-on Teaching	This module is designed to enhance the practical skills of Early Childhood Educators through direct participation in learning activities. Through a handson approach, participants will develop key skills to foster high-quality interactions with children and create an inclusive learning environment.  During the module, Early Childhood Educators will engage in interactive exercises and receive immediate feedback, allowing them to directly apply the pedagogical techniques learned to their educational settings. Strategies for observation and documentation, group dynamics management, and conflict resolution will be addressed, all focused on adapting pedagogical practices to the individual and collective needs of children.			



# 6 Plan, Reflect and Learn

The application of teaching skills, observation and effective decision making is essential to fulfil teaching PAMPS for early childhood and is a cross-cutting capability that should be developed in all ECEs at each stage of their development. The ECE plans, evaluates and reflects each practice and event seeking improvements. In addition, this personal evaluation and reflection underpin a process of ongoing learning and professional development. An important element of this process is the ECE's efforts to with other ECEs in the process.

Reflection plays a vital role in early childhood settings. It provides continuous professional development, support, and feedback for all members involved and gives ECEs a safe space to discuss challenging experiences and related feelings. It lays the groundwork for ongoing professional development through consistent self-reflection, community support, and emotional awareness. It's critical that educators can manage the feelings that come with stress to support children's development, communicate effectively with co-workers and families, and find job satisfaction.

Questioning what learning and development is taking place to make meaning of what has been observed is crucial for ECE. ECE students should be able to describe why the events are significant to the child and to describe why this experience was important for the child involved.



# **Core Module Structure**

Core Module Inclusive Teaching					
Module Number	mber 3				
Core Module Aim	<ul> <li>The aim of the core module is to</li> <li>to clarify the value of diversity and the importance of inclusion in early childhood education and to establish it as a general principle.</li> <li>to convey the knowledge, methods, and strategies for inclusive teaching in early childhood education using practical teaching/case scenarios.</li> </ul>				
Module Description	<ul> <li>The module consists of three courses:</li> <li>Course 3.1: This course teaches the theoretical foundations of the concept of inclusion. This includes the legal background (e.g., UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and national legislation), the requirements and goals of inclusion, and didactic models, principles, methods, and strategies for inclusive teaching.</li> <li>Course 3.2: In this course, the principles, methods, and resources of inclusive teaching are practically applied and reflected using specific teaching/case scenarios.</li> <li>Course 3.3: In this course, the practical experiences with inclusive teaching are reflected on and deepened in guided and independent formats of work.</li> </ul>				
Module Duration	30 hours				
Facilities and Equipment	Facilities: Seminar room and gym (accessible to all).  Equipment: Equipment that can be modified or adapted to the individual needs and abilities of children or that is available in different variants				
Methodology	<ul> <li>Class-based lectures and presentations, work in pairs and small groups, independent/self-directed working.</li> <li>Field-based sessions, peer teaching, specific teaching/case scenarios, work in small groups, independent/self-directed working.</li> </ul>				
Coaching Materials	Logbook / reflection book				
Suggested Readings	<ul> <li>Liebermann, L.J., Houston-Wilson, C., &amp; Grenier, M. (2024). Strategies for inclusion: Physical Education for everyone (4<sup>th</sup> Ed.). Champaign, IL: Hu-man Kinetics.</li> <li>Finkelstein, S., Sharma, U., &amp; Furlonger, B. (2021). The inclusive practices of classroom teachers: A scoping review and thematic analysis. Interna-tional Journal of Inclusion, 25(6), 735-762.</li> <li>Website: <a href="https://www.dippe.lu">www.dippe.lu</a> (Disentangling inclusion in Physical Education).</li> </ul>				
Evaluation	EduPASS Evaluation Tool for Early Childhood Educator Programmes				
Module structure	Course 3.1: Theoretical Foundations of Inclusive Teaching     4 h Lecture Teaching Units				



	T						
(each module requires AT LEAST 2 courses)	o 2 h Self-Directed Working hours						
Learning outcomes for Early Childhood	The module will enable the Early Childhood Educator in training to build the following competencies (knowledge, skills, attitudes, values) which serve as a foundation when engaging with the children they teach:						
Educators	<ul> <li>Knowledge:</li> <li>Children's needs</li> <li>Children's interests and preferences</li> <li>Pedagogical knowledge</li> <li>Motor development in childhood</li> </ul>	Skills:  Providing a positive learning environment  Communication skills  Organizational skills  Teaching / pedagogical skills					
	Attitudes: ECEs in training will have engaged in activities that foster development of the following attitudes when engaging with children they teach:	Values: ECEs in training will have engaged in activities that foster development of the following values when engaging with children they teach:					
	<ul> <li>Respecting children's needs and interests</li> <li>Empathy</li> <li>Motivation</li> <li>Enthusiasm</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Inclusion</li><li>Valuing diversity</li></ul>					
Learning outcomes for children/learners	The module will enable the Early Childhood Educator in training to support the children they teach to develop the following competencies (knowledge, skills, attitudes, values):						
Joi Cimarenyieurners	<ul> <li>Knowledge:</li> <li>Social interaction</li> <li>Awareness about other children's needs and preferences</li> <li>Diversity</li> </ul>	Skills:  • Fun and enjoyment  • Communication skills  • Cooperation skills					
	Attitudes: Children will have engaged in activities that foster development of the following attitudes when engaging in PAMPS activities with other children:	Values: Children will have engaged in activities that foster development of the following values when engaging in PAMPS activities with other children:					
	<ul> <li>Respecting other children's needs and interests</li> <li>Empathy</li> <li>Enthusiasm Solidarity</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Inclusion</li><li>Respect</li><li>Cooperation</li></ul>					



	<ul><li>Fair play</li><li>Honesty</li></ul>
Module Outcomes action oriented outcomes and results for educators (based on Quality Statements from EU Framework for Early Childhood Education and Care, 2014)	<ul> <li>After successful completion of the module, the Early Childhood Educator in training will be able:</li> <li>to provide educational experiences that encourage participation of ALL children, ensures inclusion, and embrace diversity.</li> <li>to provide educational experiences that ALL children enable to reach their full potential in a holistic way.</li> <li>to collaborate with ALL children, colleagues and parents and reflect on his/her inclusive teaching practice.</li> <li>to continuously monitor, evaluate and adapt his/her inclusive teaching practice, focused on what is in the best interest of ALL children.</li> </ul>
Connection to other Core Module	Module 6: Plan, Reflect and Learn



## **Course Structure**

Course Title	Theoretical Foundations of Inclusive Teaching			
Course Number	3.1			
Course Description / Main Objective	The course teaches the theoretical foundations of the concept of inclusion. This includes the legal background (e.g., UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and national legislation), its development, the goals of inclusion, and particularly didactic models, principles, methods, and strategies for inclusive teaching. The main objective of this course is to emphasize the value and importance of inclusive teaching in early childhood education			
Course Structure (each module requires AT	L	4 h	<b>Teaching Unit 1:</b> Foundations of the Concept of Inclusion	
LEAST 2 Teaching Units)	S	4 h	<b>Teaching Unit 2:</b> Discussion of the Concept of Inclusion	
	SDL	2 h	Teaching Unit 3: Preparing an Inclusive Teaching Activity	
Course Content (examples of specific Course Content based on	TU 1	<ul> <li>The concept of inclusion</li> <li>Didactic models, principles, methods, and strategie inclusive teaching</li> </ul>		
EduPASS LTT workshops are shared as separate slide decks)	TU 2	<ul> <li>TU 2</li> <li>Interactive discussion of the concept of inclusion</li> <li>From theory to practice – inclusion in "real world" settings</li> <li>Advantages and disadvantages</li> <li>possible barriers in practice, "trouble shooting"</li> </ul>		
	TU 3	Preparing an inclusive teaching activity in pairs or small groups		



Course Title	Inclusive Teaching in Practice		
Course Number	3.2		
Course Description / Main Objective	In this course, the principles, methods, and resources of inclusive teaching learned in course 3.1 are practically applied and reflected using specific teaching/case scenarios. The objective of the course is to understand how to plan and implement an inclusive teaching activity for children with special needs and/or disabilities.		
Course Structure (each module requires AT LEAST 2 Teaching Units)	W/PE	10 h	<b>Teaching Unit 1:</b> Implementing the Inclusive Teaching Activities
Course Content (examples of specific Course Content based on EduPASS LTT workshops are shared as separate slide decks)	TU 1	Practical implementation of the inclusive teaching activities (pairs or small groups)	



Course Title	Reflection and Deepening of Inclusive Teaching			
Course Number	3.3			
Course Description / Main Objective	In this course, the practical experiences with inclusive teaching gained in course 3.2 are discussed and reflected on in various work formats. The aim of this course is to give participants a deeper understanding of inclusion and to enable them to teach inclusively in various settings.			
Course Structure (each module requires AT	L	4 h	<b>Teaching Unit 1:</b> Guided Discussion and Reflection on Inclusive Teaching	
LEAST 2 Teaching Units)	W	4 h	<b>Teaching Unit 2:</b> Group Discussion of the Concept on Inclusive Teaching	
	SDL	2 h	Teaching Unit 3: Summary and Conclusion	
Course Content (examples of specific Course Content based on	TU 1	diffe	ded discussion and reflection on inclusive teaching in erent settings blem-solving strategies ("trouble shooting").	
EduPASS LTT workshops are shared as separate slide decks)	TU 2	<ul> <li>Group discussion on inclusion and inclusive teaching</li> <li>How to teach inclusively in "my" setting/field?</li> </ul>		
	TU 3		ependent summary and conclusions from the cussions (pairs or small groups)	