

Symposium on Translating Theory into Practice: Case Study in Child Welfare

The Journey to Evidence-based Practices --HKSPC's Experience in Child Welfare Service

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The Protection of Children



I. HKSPC Child Care Services

- a. 1 residential crèche/ nursery taking care of 100 young children from 0-3 years old (Children's Residential Home)
- b. 5 stand alone day crèches and 1 day crèche cum child care centre
- c. 17 nursery schools
- d. 27 places of occasional child care
- e. 324 places of extended hour service











II. <u>Challenges of Adopting Evidence-based Practice</u> in Residential Creche/ Nursery

- Rigid and tight manpower ratio and round the clock service
- b. Lack of knowledge on evidence- based practice
- c. No designated staff to initiate and back up evidencebased practice
- d. Absence of an evidence-based work culture



III. Why we pilot the Evidence-based Practice in our society

- a. Change of client profile and children needs in our residential creche/ nursery
- b. Common phenomena of developmental delay among the children
 - around 78% of children have different kinds of delayed development.
 - 29 % of children have been diagnosed as having difficulties of hyperactivity or attention deficit.
- c. Lack of a systematic and integrated assessment tools to assess development of normal children in child care services
- d. Evidence-based practice is important to demonstrate our service effectiveness and efficiency to donors



IV. Details of the pilot scheme

Name: "FUN FUN 中進步"

Date: July 2009 to July 2012

Major task: • Compile a child development check list tailored

made for normal children in child care services

• Pilot and grow the Pilot Scheme

Major target: 1 to 1.5 years old children at

Children Residential Home



Stage 1 Planning Stage

Date: July 2009 to Jan 2010



1. Develop a special management team for the pilot scheme

Members: Service Director

Educational Psychologist

Superintendent of Children Residential Home

Vice-superintendent of Children Residential Home

Objective:

- a. Literature review on developmental delay among young Children as residential facility development of children in residential facility
- b. To compile a "Child Development Checklist" a tailoredmade assessment tool for assessing the child development of children in the care of Children's Residential Home
- c. To plan the operational plan and strategy in implementing the pilot scheme



2. Staff Training for all professional staff

--- introduce our pilot scheme and key significant findings and experience from a residential facility for young children in India





3. Motivate staff participation in the initial pilot stage

-Invited child care workers to participate in the pilot

scheme voluntarily

-12 staff showed interest



4. Pre-test of the children check list

- Educational psychologist made initial assessment on the development of our target children that will join the pilot scheme (young children aged 1-1.5 years old) that have more urgent need to speed up their development.
- Assessment focused on children's cognitive, speech, physical (major & minor muscle), and affective and social development that are more important for young children



Stage 2 Putting the scheme into practice

Date: Jan 2011 ---- July 2012





1. Develop the operation tools

- develop the tools and plans to assess children's development

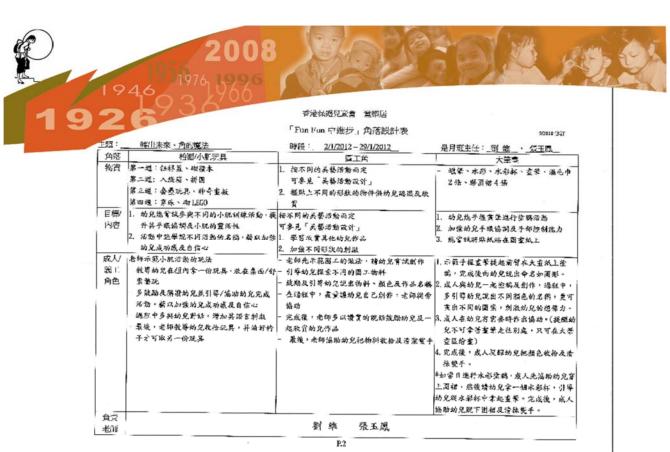




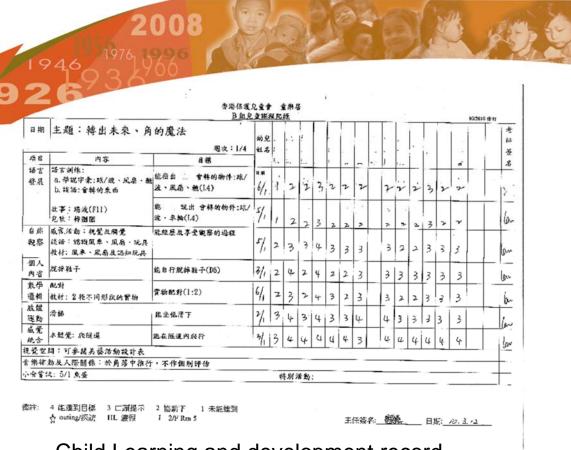




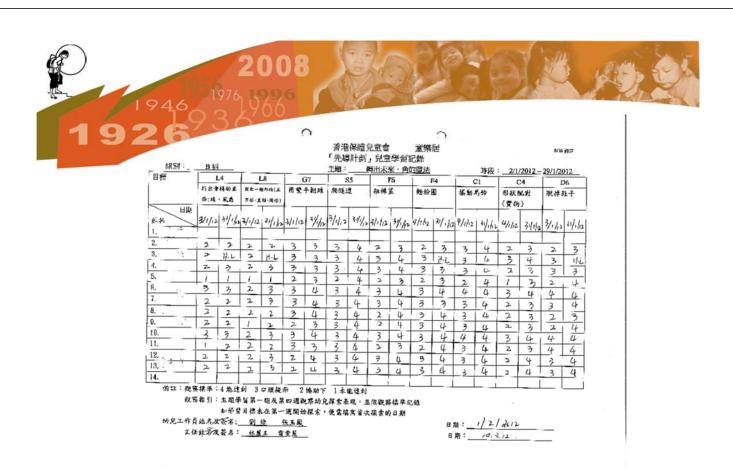
1. Check list of 1-2 years early childhood development character istic



Child learning Outline



Child Learning and development record



Child Learning evaluation (monthly assessment)



2. Restructure our learning environment

--- create 9 learning corners to provide a more stimulating environment to enhance children's development

Speech development

- Speech corner
- Book Corner



Physical development (major & minor muscle)

- Sensory Corner
- Toys Corner





Cognitive

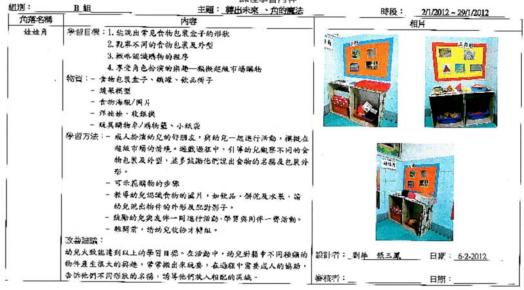
- Exploration Corner
- Mathematic Logic Corner
- Visual Spatial Corner (art work)
- Role Corner



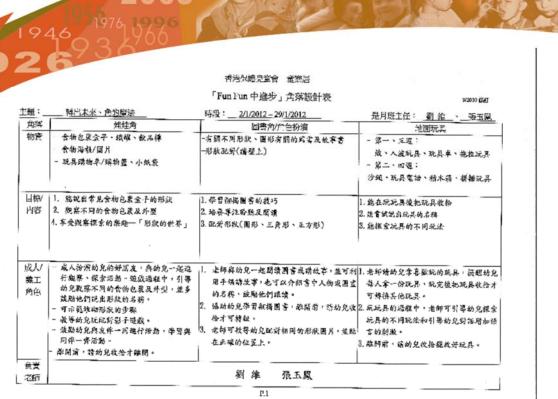


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Corner Design



Corner design material list

3. Role and Support for different Parties

- --work re-structure was made to create the manpower to implement the scheme.
- --some sharing workshops were organized for all staff to build support for the pilot scheme



(a) Management team

- to monitor the development of pilot scheme
- to give the guidance and support
- to evaluate the effectiveness of the pilot scheme

(b) Senior Child Care Worker

- to monitor the daily operation and support the bi-month evaluation
- to review overall progress and adjust the plan of the pilot scheme

(c) Child Care Worker

- to create the Child Learning Outline and compile the Child development Record.
- to implement the daily learning programs

(d) Child Care Aide

- to assist the daily learning activities



(e) Workman

- to prepare the material for daily learning activities
- to clean the equipments and learning materials

(f) Volunteer

to assist the daily learning activities



5. Evaluation stage

- The Management team planned and implemented a mid-team evaluation with our staffs and a pro-test for our child to evaluate the effectiveness of our check list and the scheme
- Observations about our children in the Mid-team evaluation conducted on Nov 2011



- a. Cognitive development : borderline to developmental delay
 - b. Speech development: average development
 - c. Physical (Major & Minor muscle): average development
 - d. Affective and social Development : reduce some misbehavior and indiscriminately friendly behavior.
 - *** but we still need to gather more data to proof the effectiveness of our pilot scheme to be conducted at the finial evaluation stage.

Benefit and limitation of our scheme

Benefit

- 1. Higher staff awareness on variations of development among our children
- The child development checklist can create more common languages and vision for our staff in pursuing quality services
- 3. Assess the need and progress of child development more objectively
- 4. Build higher staff morale and better teamwork
- Easy for management team to assess the performance of our units



Limitation

- 1. Create more paper work for our staff
- Difficult to implement the learning outline whenever there is Infectious Diseases Outbreaks in the community of in the Home
- 3. Pre & Pro evaluation is quite difficult due to the uncontrolled and frequent entry and exit of children.

Reflection from our pilot Scheme

- Evident- based Practice needs to be supported by a work culture that treasures objective proof of service quality and decision in daily management.
- 2. Further resources to back up systematic evaluation and research, such as: Education Psychologist? Researcher?
- 3. Agency Commitment is crucial for the success