

WORKPLACE OPTION

Suggestions for developing goals, objectives and professional learning activities

The Key Project Implementation Plan documents the objectives and professional learning activities you wish to pursue in your workplace placement. This is intended to provide an opportunity to think more thoroughly about your involvement in the practicum & help you to focus on further developing your knowledge, skill sets and professional competencies as an early childhood educator. This will also provide a framework for sharing your practicum goals, objectives and activities with your Field Educator and Faculty Advisor.

Identify Goals, Objectives, and Learning Activities & Methods to Measure Objectives:

Using your professional development goals as your guide, articulate a very personalized career developmental vision for your placement. In doing so, set out specific, measurable, achievable, reasonable and time-based (SMART) short-term goals and opportunities you wish to explore in a practicum. Identify specifically how you hope to realize these goals and envision an evaluation plan whereby stated goals and preferred outcomes can be measured for their success. These outcome indicators or measurements in your evaluation should be articulated in very realistic and meaningful ways. The idea is to create a measurement which allows you to determine whether a goal has been realized or not. For example, a declaration or statement of intent is an effective way to measure success in your evaluation plan. "I will complete a course on leadership this term as a means of improving my public speaking skills." The completion of this course on leadership will determine whether this goal has been met.

This allows you to reflect on your own growth and learning potential – as it relates to these stated professional development efforts.

The following list consists of examples of strategies that might be employed to reach goals & objectives.

Apply critical thinking

- Synthesize & evaluate information from various sources
- Formulate questions & analyze problems in order to confirm, validate existing information/solutions applied or propose alternate application of information/solutions
- Understand, apply or adapt theories, concepts, and knowledge (including those from courses taken) based on situational needs.

Engage in Interpersonal Communication

- Apply active listening and demonstrate effective personal interactions one-to-one and within groups
- Use a variety of methods to convey concepts
- Determine the impact of communication in terms of its effects on others
- Deliver effective communication via oral, written and/or electronic formats that is appropriate to intended audience

Demonstrate Leadership

- Act as a role model for others
- Motivate, empower and engage others

Additional Strategies

- Understand the workplace, operational procedures, organizational culture and structure; gaining a sense of the overall environment.
- Seek out, respect and value diverse perspectives and opinions for understanding the complexity of related issues
- Work collaboratively with individuals and groups of different backgrounds to achieve common goals
- Demonstrate understanding of effective collaborations with individuals and groups from diverse social, cultural and socioeconomic background