

# Assessment Task 2

## Focus Report

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**Length:** 2000 words (10% above or below)

**Due Date:** 11<sup>th</sup> February 2017

**Weighting:** 50%

For this assignment you are required to develop an in-depth focus report of a child of your choice aged between birth to 12 years of age. You will be required to:

- a) Provide a description of the child, outlining the family background and context of the child, and the developmental delay/cause for concern that you have identified, including some of the characteristics that lead you to this conclusion
- b) Explore the possible factors that may be influencing the child's development;
- c) Point out the strengths and interest of the child; and
- d) Outline ways, using appropriate pedagogy and modifications to the environment, which would support the child's development
- e) Discuss factors of the parent-teacher and home/school partnerships can be used to support the child's development

It is important that you support your statements with at least **6 relevant and scholarly sources of literatures** to justify the influences on development, as well as the pedagogy and environmental modifications you propose.

\*If you are not on placement this trimester, you may focus on a child you know personally or a child from your workplace or you can use the Case Study provided online

Further instruction can be found below to help you approach your assignment

# Assessment Task 2

## Writing Guide

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It is suggested that you organise this assignment into a report type format where you present the information under various subheadings to act as prompts to keep you on track with the requirements and to ensure a coherent structure.

The following structure has been developed, for your reference only please. \* note the word count and headings are merely suggested to guide you – you may use your own headings and disperse the words count as you wish, so long as you are including all necessary information and meeting the marking criteria.

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### **SECTION ONE: Background of the child and Developmental Delay/cause for Concern**

(400 words)

Introduction to the child and area of concern (suggested headings)

- Introduction to the child
- Background & context of the child
- Identify the developmental delay/cause for concern by identifying the concerning characteristics

In this section you need to provide a description of the child's background and context and then continue on to identify the developmental delay/cause for concern which could cause you concern if you were this child's teacher i.e. language delays; poor concentration skills; lack of appropriate social skills (such as turn taking or sharing etc). You need to clearly identify the characteristics that suggest a developmental delay/cause for concern.

It is important that you change the actual child's name and any names of centres or staff or parents so that the child, centre or family cannot be identified. Please consider the ethical implications carefully.

## **SECTION 2: Factors that may be influencing development**

(400 words)

Discussion of at least 2 possible factors that you believe may be influencing the child's development (suggested headings)

- Influence 1 XXX
- Influence 2 XXX

In this section you make professional judgments drawing on the readings that you have been undertaking for this unit about what factors may have attributed to the issues that concern you, and how these factors are known to influence development. You must use literature to support your argument here, writing this in an essay style. By weaving in the literature you are supporting the claims you made about possible influences on the child's development that could be reasons for the concerning characteristics.

## **SECTION THREE: Strengths and interests of the child**

(400 words)

Strengths and interest of the child (suggested headings)

- Strength/s XXX
- Interest/s XXX

In this section you point out at least one of the child's strengths and interest areas, giving practical examples/observations to support your statements (these should be discussed only briefly in your work, and then referred to and included in your Appendix list). You will also need to discuss how you can use these strengths and interest to support the child's development, using literature to support your ideas.

## **SECTION FOUR: Plan - pedagogical approach and environmental modifications**

(400 words)

Planning individualised pedagogical and environmental modifications to support the child

(suggested headings)

- Developmental delay/cause for concern:
  - Characteristic 1 XXX
  - Characteristic 2 XXX
  - Environmental modification
  - Pedagogical approach

In this section you need to explain how you will build on the child's **strengths** (identified in Section 3) to address the **concerning characteristics** (identified in Section 1). This section ties the report together showing ways of modifying the program **both** pedagogically and environmentally to better cater for the child.

Try to focus on incorporating the child's interests and working through the child's strength to overcome the delay/concern. You will need to draw on scholarly readings / information from relevant, up-to-date information on the area of diversity concerning this child. You may like to include specific information sheets etc. as an Appendix (at the end of your assignment).

## **SECTION FIVE: Home-School Partnerships**

(400 words)

Home-school and parent-teacher partnerships (suggested headings)

- Home-School
- Parent-Teacher

Finally, describe how you will use the parent-teacher relationships to work with parents to support the child in the classroom environment, with consideration to the child's home life.

Please use **at least 6** relevant and scholarly sources of literatures to support your work.

## TAKE NOTE:

- Check the **marking criteria** to ensure you have addressed all sections appropriately
- Follow **Deakin Harvard** referencing guidelines throughout your assignment
- Place your **Reference List** at the end of your assignment to acknowledge all the materials you have drawn information from (**minimum of 6 scholarly references**)
- Include a **title page** at the front of the assignment – it should include your name, ID number, assignment title, unit code and the name of your lecturer
- Use **12 font** and **at least 1.5 spacing**
- Use a **spelling and grammar** checker to check your assignment
- Copy and paste the **marking criteria sheet** for this assignment at the end of your work
- Save file into **compatible file format** (.doc) and check **file size** (max 5MB)
- **Proofread and avoid plagiarism!**
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## IMPORTANT:

Please make sure you constantly check the CloudDeakin site for this unit where information will be updated throughout the unit. The Discussion section of the CloudDeakin site also provides a place for questions and answers, so check this section too.

## EXTENSION REQUESTS:

If you require an extension you must follow correct procedure by uploading the extension request form and supporting documentation to the '*Assignment 1 extension request*' Dropbox folder at least **3 days** before the assignment is due.

**\*If your extension application is within 3 days of the assignment due date you must submit your current draft before approval can be granted.**