

2021 Criteria for Curriculum Review

1) Comprehensive

- ✚ Play/child-centered based activities or experiences are provided to address:
 - Each developmental domain in Foundations.
 - Approaches to Play and Learning (APL)
 - Emotional and Social Development (ESD)
 - Health and Physical Development (HPD)
 - Language Development and Communication (LDC)
 - Cognitive Development (CD)
 - Scheduling and routines: The curriculum must include a schedule that is age appropriate, predictable, but flexible, and responsive to the needs of individual children. The schedule must include an appropriate balance of teacher/caregiver initiated and child-initiated experiences, and large blocks of time for play and exploration with appropriate facilitation from the adult. Routines such as feeding and toileting should be age appropriate and included as an integral part of children's experiences.
 - Physical Environment: The curriculum must provide appropriate guidance for teachers and caregivers on the physical environment, including guidance on room/home space arrangement, furnishings, equipment, and other aspects of the physical environment that reflects an understanding of child development and supports children's learning and development.

2) Evidenced-based

- ✚ Describes theoretical and/or research base for the approach and clearly demonstrates how the curriculum utilizes the theory and/or research as a basis for making decisions about experiences provided for children. The curriculum may also have empirical evidence regarding the effectiveness of the curriculum collected with sound research methodology.
- ✚ Presents concepts that are concrete and relevant to children's everyday experiences.
- ✚ Free of violent or otherwise unacceptable content.
- ✚ Provides a variety of experiences which supports children in making choices, exploring and demonstrating independence.
- ✚ Supports the development of children from diverse backgrounds, including dual language learners.
- ✚ Includes adaptations or provisions for children with varying development/ability levels, including children with disabilities.
- ✚ Curriculum includes family engagement strategies, such as promotes collaborations with families to plan individual learning experiences with children.

3) Aligns with Foundations and includes a language and literacy component

- ✚ Describes intent or developmental goals of given experiences.
- ✚ Incorporates a naturalistic ongoing child assessment system or formative assessment to document children's level of development and interest, and uses that information to develop plans and experiences.
- ✚ Includes a variety of methods to document children's growth and learning. Eg. Child portfolios, anecdotal notes, photos
- ✚ Teachers use strategies for promoting phonological awareness, print, alphabet knowledge and literacy through play, within daily conversation, in activities and in the context of children's every day experiences.
- ✚ Completed accurately the self-report stating how curriculum aligns with NC FELD Goals for Preschoolers and NC FELD Strategies for Preschoolers.