

DEGREE EXAMINATIONS, SEMESTER 1

AUGUST 2009

EDUCATION

LEVEL 1

PAPER: ED11620 YOUNG CHILDREN LEARNING

TIME ALLOWED: TWO HOURS

ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS

Answer ONE question from section A, and ONE question from section B

SECTION A

Section A

1. Outline the development of pre-school education since the 1870 Education Act, analysing how and why these developments took place.
2. A high-quality learning environment in an early years setting is essential. Describe what is a 'high quality learning environment', justifying and supporting your viewpoint.
3. Pre-school provisions are varied in their nature and organisation. Discuss two contrasting provisions, explaining why they meet the needs of a variety of parents, children and their families.
4. 'Knowledge and Understanding of the World' is a key feature of the Foundation Phase in Wales and the Foundation Stage in England. Discuss how the development of scientific, geographical and historical skills and concepts can be best nurtured in a pre-school setting.

Section B

5. The Revised Code of Practice on the Identification and Assessment of Special Educational Needs (January 2002) has had a significant impact on schools. Outline the most important requirements of the Code, and analyse the effect this has had on schools.
6. The Foundation Phase in Wales and the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 curriculum in England will lead to many differences in approach. Whilst outlining the differences, analyse the effects which both these systems will have on teaching styles within the classrooms.
7. 'Play' and 'Active Learning' are important factors in the education of young children. Define these terms, and by referring to two different types of play, explain how they can be integrated within an infant classroom.
8. 'What makes a good infant teacher?' Identify some of the qualities (noting your reasons for choosing particular aspects) and attempt a critical analysis of the chosen features. Specific references to your personal reading and seminar discussions should be included in your answer.