

Target Area: Administrative and Management Practices

Program Management includes effective implementation of policies, procedures and systems that support strong program management including stable personnel, fiscal soundness, program accountability, record keeping, professional development and continuous program improvement.

Examples of actions that can be taken to improve this area are:

- Policy and procedures manuals
- Staff orientation and regularly scheduled staff meetings
- Professional development plans for all staff

Target Area: Developmentally Appropriate Curricula

Developmentally Appropriate curricula offer opportunities for children to learn individually and in groups according their developmental needs and interests. The program should implement a curriculum that is consistent with its goals for children and promotes learning and development in each of the developmental domains addressed in the Florida Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Standards adopted by the Department of Education.

Examples of actions that can be taken to improve this area are:

- Professional development opportunities for staff regarding curriculum
- Participation in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Standards training

Target Area: Classroom Learning Environment

The program should provide a safe and healthful environment that provides appropriate, well-maintained, organized, and accessible indoor and outdoor physical environments. The learning environment includes facilities, equipment and materials to facilitate children's and staff's learning and development.

Examples of actions that can be taken to improve this area are:

- Health and Safety checklists
- Effective room arrangement strategies
- Developmentally appropriate materials and equipment
- Organized and accessible materials

Target Area: Classroom Instructional Practices

Instructional practices include the use of developmentally, culturally and linguistically appropriate and effective teaching approaches that enhance each child's learning and development in the context of the program's curriculum goals. Teaching practices should include a variety of approaches that range from structured to unstructured activities and from adult-directed to child-directed.

Examples of actions that can be taken to improve this area are:

- Staff orientation program
- Staff to staff mentoring
- Professional development opportunities for all staff

Target Area: Child Developmental Screenings and Assessments

Developmental screenings and child assessments include ongoing, systematic, formal and informal assessment approaches to provide information on individual children's learning and development. Screening and assessment results are used to benefit children by informing sound decisions about children, instructional practices, and program improvement.

Examples of actions that can be taken to improve this area are:

- Professional development opportunities for staff regarding screening and assessment
- Selection of appropriate screening and assessment tools
- Participation in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Standards training

Target Area: Social-Emotional Interactions Among Prekindergarten Instructors and Children

Positive relationships are essential for the development of personal responsibility, self-regulation, interactions with others and for fostering learning and development. Interactions among instructors and children are warm, sensitive, respectful and responsive to the needs of each individual child.

Examples of actions that can be taken to improve this area are:

- Professional development opportunities for all staff
- Staff to staff mentoring
- Staff orientation
- On-going observation and feedback

Target Area: Family Involvement

Family involvement includes establishing and maintaining collaborative relationships with each child's family to foster children's development in all settings. The relationships are sensitive to the family composition, language and culture. Programs recognize the importance of family involvement and that the parent is the child's first teacher.

Examples of actions that can be taken to improve this area are:

- Professional development opportunities for all staff
- Opportunities for parents to participate in the program
- Sharing of information with parents through parent conferences, newsletters, daily notes, or parent meetings
- Take home activities or parent lending libraries