Early Childhood Studies

Applied Senior Subject

School Code	ECS			
Year Level	11 & 12		QCE Credits	4
Subject Type	Applied Subject		VET Contribution	N/A
Recommended Academic Performance	Nil			
21st Century Skills	Collaboration and teamwork			

The first five years of life are critical in shaping growth and development, relationships, wellbeing and learning. The early years can have a significant influence on an individual's accomplishments in family, school and community life. Quality early childhood education and care support children to develop into confident, independent and caring adults.

Early Childhood Studies focuses on students learning about children aged from birth to five years through early childhood education and care. While early childhood learning can involve many different approaches, this subject focuses on the significance of play to a child's development. Play-based learning involves opportunities in which children explore, imagine, investigate and engage in purposeful and meaningful experiences to make sense of their world.

The course of study involves learning about ideas related to the fundamentals and industry practices in early childhood learning. Investigating how children grow, interact, develop and learn enables students to effectively interact with children and positively influence their development. Units are implemented to support the development of children, with a focus on play and creativity, literacy and numeracy skills, wellbeing, health and safety, and indoor and outdoor learning environments. Throughout the course of study, students make decisions and work individually and with others.

Students examine the interrelatedness of the fundamentals and practices of early childhood learning. They plan, implement and evaluate play-based learning activities responsive to the needs of children as well as exploring contexts in early childhood learning. This enables students to develop understanding of the multifaceted, diverse and significant nature of early childhood learning.

Students have opportunities to learn about the childcare industry, such as the roles and responsibilities of workers in early childhood education and care services. Opportunities to interact with children and staff in early childhood education and care services would develop their skills and improve their readiness for future studies or the workplace. Through interacting with children, students have opportunities to experience the important role early childhood educators play in promoting child development and wellbeing.

Pathways

A course of study in Early Childhood Studies can establish a basis for further education and employment in health, community services and education. Work opportunities exist as early childhood educators, teacher's aides or assistants in a range of early childhood contexts.

Objectives

By the conclusion of the course of study, students should:

- Investigate the fundamentals and practices of early childhood learning.

- Plan learning activities.

- Implement learning activities.

- Evaluate learning activities.

Early Childhood Studies

Applied Senior Subject

Structure:

The Early Childhood Studies course is designed around core and elective topics.

Unit Option A—Play and Creativity

Unit Option B—Literacy and Numeracy

Unit Option D—Children's Wellbeing

Unit Option E—Indoor and Outdoor Environments

Assessment:

For Early Childhood Studies, Students are required to undertake an investigation and a project for each unit centred around pay-based activities

The focus of each assessment must be different

Investigation	Project
• A response to a single task, situation and/or scenario.	• A response that includes locating and using information beyond students' own knowledge and the data they have been given.
• Multimodal (at least two modes delivered at the same time: up to 5minutes and 8 A4 Pages or equivalent digital media Modes may include • Written • Spoken • Performance • Product	• Implementation of Activity: Up to 5minutes • Multimodal (at least two modes delivered at the same time: up to 5minutes and 8 A4 Pages or equivalent digital media Modes may include • Written • Spoken • Performance • Product