



WEBINAR 2 DECEMBER 14, 2023

CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT



LET'S THINK A LITTLE BIT ABOUT SOME PRINCIPLES OF FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT CONSIDERS HOW CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND EDUCATORS COMMUNICATE WITH EACH OTHER AND EXPERIENCE THE WORLD AROUND THEM.

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO REFLECT ON HOW YOUR ECE SETTING PRACTICES THE SIX PRINCIPLES OF FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

PRINCIPLE 1
DECISION
MAKING AND
GOAL
SETTING

How does your program engage families and children in goal-setting and decision-making? What types of goals and decisions are being negotiated/worked on?

PRINCIPLE 2
TWO WAY
COMMUNICA-
TION

What are some ways your program builds on two-way communication with families? What other ways might you like to try?

PRINCIPLE 3
TRULY
RECIPROCAL

How does your program support communication to families, and how receptive are families to communication from your program?

PRINCIPLE 4
HOME AND
COMMUNITY
LEARNING

How does your program support children's learning experiences at home and in the community?

PRINCIPLE 5
PROGRAM
LEVEL
DECISION
MAKING

How does your program support opportunities for families to participate in program decision making? What success or barriers have you experienced?



Key Considerations

Communication

Ways to connect with families: apps, social media, newsletters, email, face-to-face, text, handbook

Considerations

Language: What languages do families primarily communicate in at home?

Superdiversity (complexities of immigration and settlement) - Where do the child's family members live? Who is interested in learning more about the child's progress/care? How can we get this information to them?

Goal Setting

We recognize that developmental goals vary from culture to culture. What goals do families see as important to the development of their child? Use these conversations to create unique and culturally relevant goals for each child.

Considerations

Language: What language are the goals communicated in? Can they be also communicated in another language?
Culturally appropriate goals: What child development goals are shared among cultures? What goals and timelines are different?

Family Participation at a Program and System Level

How can we engage families in the early learning program? Is there any opportunity for families to participate in safe and included ways?

Suggestions for participation can include surveys, parent committees, special events and community-building events. How can we build capacity so families feel empowered to contribute to early learning settings?

Building Home and Community Connections

What familiar places near the early learning center do families frequent? How can we engage with families and those spaces to extend learning outside our early learning program? What sorts of activities children describe engaging in at home can we further extend in our early learning program? How does this connect back to goal setting and communicating with families?

Notes