

## Specific Requirements for Professional Experience EDEC207: Authentic Assessment with Children: PrEx 10 days

Teacher education students undertake a 10-day professional experience placement in an early childhood service working with **children aged birth to under 3 years** and their families. You need to successfully complete the 10 days of professional experience to obtain a 'Satisfactory Result' (SR) in order to pass this unit. A *Professional Experience Report* only is required in this professional experience due to the shorter length of the professional experience. The focus of this placement is to implement an assessment and planning cycle with a group of 2-3 children, then evaluate as outlined under Assignment 2 guidelines.

It is essential you continue to demonstrate and practise skills in working with infants, toddlers and young children and to build further on these skills with each successive professional experience. In this unit you will be assessed on a range of professional skills over the course of your professional experience. Ensure the *Professional Experience Report* and your progress is discussed with your supervisor during the professional experience and points recorded under Interim Comments in the *Professional Experience Report*. Your supervisor will fully complete the report with you at the end of Day 10. A sample copy of this report is available on the PREXUS Moodle site.

As an integral aspect of ongoing critically reflective professional practice you are also required to continue writing in your *Critically Reflective Learning Journal* - for the duration of your professional experience. The National Quality Framework states that *Educators take a planned and reflective approach to implementing the educational program by using an assessment and planning cycle and engaging with critical reflection to improve the program and practice* (ACECQA 2020), so you can see that this critical reflective practice will become an everyday part of your teaching life.

Hint, refer to Topic F, you will find a detailed list of questions that will prompt your critical thinking and you can start with:

- What has gone well today?
- What have I achieved?
- What are the next steps?
- What has not gone so well?
- Where can I get some help with this and when?

Note there are three tasks you need to complete BEFORE you begin your professional experience placement listed below.

In addition to the generic PrEx requirements, this unit also has a number of specific requirements.

Timetable for Professional Experience	Tasks
<p><b>Prior to beginning your professional experience</b></p>	<p><b>Task 1</b> Ensure you have read the various EDEC207 unit readings to date and <b>the requirements for Assignment 2</b>. Read the Educators Guide to the EYLF (DEEWR, 2009); Chapters 3 and 10 are particularly relevant. <a href="http://docs.education.gov.au/documents/educators-guide-early-years-learning-framework-australia">http://docs.education.gov.au/documents/educators-guide-early-years-learning-framework-australia</a></p> <p><b>Task 2</b> Ensure you have some consent forms ready for completion on the first day. Available from the Unit Moodle site (not the PREXUS).</p> <p><b>Task 3:</b> Read the ECA Code of Ethics <a href="http://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/our-publications/eca-code-ethics/">http://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/our-publications/eca-code-ethics/</a> Ensure your behaviour follows the required ethical standards as laid out in this document.</p>
<p><b>Day 1 of professional experience</b></p>	<p>Introduce yourself to the staff in the room and give them a copy of Assignment 2 (if you have managed a visit BEFORE your professional experience started, you might be able to do this task then). Ask for a time to discuss with them what it is you need to do for the assignment.</p> <p><b>Check your supervising teacher has received the professional experience documents via email.</b></p> <p>Introduce yourself to the parents as they bring their children to the service. Spend time with each of the children in the group – learn each child’s name and something about each one of them. Familiarise yourself with the routines of the group – what happens, when and why.</p> <p>Decide with your supervisor which 2-3 children you would like to focus on as participants in the assessment and planning cycle for Assignment 2, in particular include children who attend as many days as possible over the week. Finalise the appropriate consent forms and distribute and discuss with relevant parents/guardians on Day 1, if at all possible.</p> <p>Write in your <i>Reflective Learning Journal</i>.</p>
<p><b>Day 2 –5 of professional experience</b></p>	<p>Begin your observations of the children’s interests, interactions and play.</p> <p>Remember observations can take various forms e.g. learning stories, anecdotal records, transcripts of language, photographs, digital programs, you are encouraged to explore the possibilities. Record at least two observations of each focus child each day, from Day 2 - Day 5.</p> <p>Participate in all the routines of the day and interact with children, particularly the focus children during the day.</p>

	<p>Write in your <i>Reflective Learning Journal</i> and record some initial thoughts about your interpretations of observations and planning of an experience as part the assessment and planning cycle.</p>
<b>Day 6–8 of professional experience</b>	<p>Continue to record at least two group observations of your focus children each day.</p> <p>Discuss with your supervising teacher your proposed planned experience as part of the assessment and planning cycle and its implementation on Days 9-10.</p> <p>Continue to participate in all the routines and activities of the day.</p> <p><i>Write in your Reflective Learning Journal.</i></p> <p>Fully plan the experience for implementation on Days 9-10. A planning template is available on the Moodle Unit site if required, other templates may be utilised too.</p>
<b>Day 9 of professional experience</b>	<p>Continue to record at least two group observations of your focus children each day.</p> <p>Continue to participate in all the routines and activities of the day.</p> <p>Implement the planned experience.</p> <p>Reflect on the implemented experience both individually and with your supervising teacher. Consider if any adjustments for Day 5 are required based on your observations today.</p> <p><i>Write in your Reflective Learning Journal.</i></p>
<b>Day 10 of professional experience</b>	<p>Continue to record at least two group observations of your focus children each day.</p> <p>Continue to participate in all the routines and activities of the day.</p> <p>Implement the planned experience with any adjustments.</p> <p>Reflect on and evaluate the implemented experience both individually and with your supervising teacher. Share what might happen next if the cycle was to continue.</p> <p>Make sure that you finish your professional experience by showing your appreciation to the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children</li> <li>• Parents</li> <li>• Staff</li> </ul> <p>Meet with your supervising teacher about your <i>Professional Experience Report</i> and ask about any areas of strength or improvement you may have or need to address in future professional experience placements.</p> <p>Review your <i>Professional Experience Report</i> with your supervising teacher. Ensure the report includes the date and signatures of both you and your supervisor, before submitting to the OPL at the completion of the placement.</p>

**The *Professional Experience Report* must be completed by the final day of the professional experience placement and emailed to the Office for Professional Learning [oplreports@une.edu.au](mailto:oplreports@une.edu.au)**

Write a final entry in your *Reflective Learning Journal*.

Ensure your professional folder is up to date and well-organised, so it will be a useful record of your professional experience and offer an informative basis to build on in the next early childhood professional experience placement.

***Please note that this professional folder is not submitted to UNE it is a personal professional portfolio, but may be required by your Unit Co-ordinator if placement progress is at risk or unsatisfactory.***

Ensure you submit Assignment 2 one week post professional experience completion via Grademark on Moodle.

- On-Campus teacher education students (one week post professional experience block)
- On-line teacher education students to submit one week post professional experience completion. **(Please note: the last possible submission date is by the end of the Trimester in which you are enrolled).**