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# NEWSLETTER

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

## DIRECTORATE OF STAFF DEVELOPMENT, PUNJAB

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ECE  
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### What is ECE?

Early Childhood Education (ECE) is a term that refers to educational programmes and strategies geared towards children from birth to the age of eight. This time period is widely considered the most vulnerable and crucial stage of a person's life.

Early childhood education often focuses on guiding children to learn through play. The term often refers to pre-school or infant/child care programs.

### Early Childhood Education in Punjab

School Education Department and Directorate of Staff Development launched a project "Introduction of Early Childhood Education" in 36 Districts of Punjab at the cost of Rs.192.6 million and established 1225 ECE rooms in Public Schools of Punjab.

### Orientation to Punjab Education Foundation

The Punjab Education Foundation was established under the Punjab Education Foundation Act, 1991 as an autonomous statutory body to encourage and promote education in the private sector operating on non-commercial/non-profit basis. Keeping in view the importance of ECE, Punjab PEF has requested DSD to share information regarding ECE class rooms establishment as DSD has already established ECE rooms in 1225 public schools of Punjab. As focal person Mr. Ayyub Bilal shared a detailed presentation on the process of establishment of ECE rooms and initiatives taken by DSD. He also shared the content of training for teachers on ECE.

### ECE INTRODUCTION

#### Why is Early Childhood Education important?

Far too many children enter school not prepared.

When unprepared children begin school behind, they tend to fall further and further behind.

Children who are at risk of not doing well in school gain significant benefits from quality childcare. All children need to enter school ready and able to succeed.

#### Cognitively improves school performance: ECE

- ⌘ raises maths and language abilities.
- ⌘ sharpens thinking/attention skills.
- ⌘ reduces special education placement.
- ⌘ lowers school drop-out rate.

#### Socially and emotionally: ECE

- ⌘ improves and strengthens interaction with peers.
- ⌘ decreases problem behaviors.
- ⌘ encourages more exploratory behavior.
- ⌘ helps adjustment to the demands of formal schooling

#### Long-term positive results and cost savings of Early Childhood Education:

- ⌘ Increases lifelong earning potential.



## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

### ECE NEWS

#### Training of Master Trainers in DSD Lahore on ECE

Directorate of Staff Development Lahore in collaboration with UNICEF arranged (02) two days training of 72 Master Trainers (Two from each district) in DSD Lahore on ECE in the month of October, 2014. Later, these Master Trainers imparted training to the ECE teachers and caregiver in their respective districts.

#### Establishment of EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (ECE) rooms in whole district of T.T.SINGH

In 1st Phase, 300 ECE rooms in T.T. Singh will be established by the financial support of UNICEF (Rs.60,000/per school) during the year 2015.

#### Establishment of ECE Resource Center and Classrooms

DSD established international level ECE Resource Center in the vicinity of DSD with support of UNICEF and UNESCO to meet the resource needs of trainees on Early Childhood Education. It provides six learning corners with books, toys and on-site equipment which are necessary for early learning. ECE resource centers have been established in all lab schools attached with 33 GCETs and 17 ECE rooms in flood hit areas of Muzaffargarh, DG Khan and Rajanpur.

#### Training of Part-time Caregivers

Directorate of Staff Development Lahore in collaboration with UNICEF arranged two days training of newly hired part-time Caregivers on ECE at concerned DTSCs across Punjab. Master Trainers imparted the training to the caregivers on their role and responsibilities regarding ECE, so that professionally developed Caregivers can play a vital role to achieve this goal.

## ESTABLISHMENT OF ECE ROOMS

### Training of Teachers and Head Teachers of ECE Schools

DSD organized four (04) day training of one Teacher and one Head Teacher of ECE Schools in 36 districts across Punjab. These trainings will help in building professional capacity of teachers for effective interaction with early year kids. ECE initiative will be supportive to retain those students, who have been enrolled in universal enrollment campaign launched by worthy Chief Minister, Punjab.

### DIVISIONAL LEVEL ORIENTATION WORKSHOP ON "EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (ECE)" FOR EDUCATION MANAGERS & COMMUNITY

In order to have orientation about the Punjab Government's ECE initiative and to get feedback from the Education Managers of District Education Department for effective implementation of ECE Project, Directorate of Staff Development (DSD) arranged "One Day Divisional level Orientation Workshop at Bahawalpur, Faisalabad, Sahiwal, Multan, D.G.Khan, Rawalpindi, Gujranwala, Sargodha & Lahore for EDOs, DEOs, Dy. DEOs, and AEOs at District Training and Support Centers (DTSCs) across Punjab. This initiative will be supportive in increasing the enrollment and retention of students.



Special Secretary SED, Programme Director (DSD) & CEO (PEC) inaugurate ECE Stall at DSD On April 7, 2015

Sr.#	Name of Division	Enrollment May, 2014	Enrollments March, 2015	Enrollment Increased
		Nursery	Nursery	Percentage
1	Rawalpindi	4276	5073	15.71%
2	Gujranwala	9403	12116	22.39%
3	Bahawalpur	9030	10043	10.09%
4	Multan	8084	10566	23.49%
5	Sahiwal	5316	6347	16.24%
6	D.G.Khan	5844	8132	28.14%
7	Sargodha	5020	5935	15.42%
8	Faisalabad	10644	12233	12.99%
9	Lahore	7670	8326	7.88%
10	PUNJAB	65287	78771	17.12%

### Training on ECE

Master Trainers	72
ECE Teachers	989
Head Teachers	989
School Council Members	2627
Caregivers	1225
Education Managers	1004

Ages	Fine Motor Skills	Gross Motor Skills	Educational & Social Skills	Intellectual Skills
Three Year Olds	Cuts Paper Builds tower of nine small blocks Pastes using a finger Pours from a pitcher Copies a circle from a drawing Draws a straight line Uses fingers to pick up small objects Draws a person with three parts Strings beads and can arrange by color and shape Uses a knife to spread at meal or snack time	Catches ball with arms extended forward Throws ball understand Completes forward somersault Walks up stairs with alternating feet Rides a tricycle skillfully Runs, walks, jumps and gallops to music Throws ball without losing balance Hops on one foot	Plays in groups of two or three children Begins to take turns Sharing becomes evident with friends Enjoys independence by doing things for themselves, e.g. "Let me do it" or "I can do it." Yells "stop it" at times as opposed to striking another child	Asks "how," "what," "when" and "why" questions Uses verb such as "could," "needs," "might" and "help" Uses adverbs such as "how" pronouns you and they Understand the pronouns you and they Understands "smaller" and "larger" Answers "how" questions appropriately Loves words such as "secret," "surprise" and "different"





Secretary School visits ECE stall

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

### Establishment of ECE Centre:

Teachers' Resource Centre at DSD.

ECE Resource Centre in 33 Lab Schools attached with GCETs in Punjab.

ECE Classrooms in 04 Schools located nearby DSD.

ECE Classroom in 17 Schools of flood hit areas in 4 districts of Punjab [D.G.Khan, M.Garh, R.Y.Khan & Rajanpur].

### Caregivers Training Manual

Training Manual for Caregivers has been developed to train and aware Caregiver about their roles and responsibilities and understanding of basic concepts of ECE. Caregivers will work with ECE teachers and help them to maintain the learning environment of classrooms. Keeping in view the ECE objectives, children psychology and stages of brain development in kids, Caregiver manual has been developed, published and distributed across Punjab.



PD (DSD) visiting the newly established ECE class room in Lahore



British Council Executive visit at DSD

## ECE TRAINING AT DSD

**"Investment in ECE is a commitment to the bright and prosperous future"**

Under this initiative, school environment will be made child friendly through the following interventions (i) ECE room has been made more attractive for kids by painting walls with some themes. (ii) providing learning resource material in accordance with National Curriculum on ECE. (iii) training of ECE teachers and Head teachers. (iv) provision of Caregivers to assist ECE teachers and (v) training of EDOs, DEOs, AEOs and School Council Members for ensuring ownership.

### DSD interventions in pre-service regarding ECE

Keeping in view the importance of pre-service education, DSD introduced B.Ed on Early Childhood Education in pre-service programmes so that pre-service Teachers join the teaching profession on Early Childhood Education by choice and take it as career. ECE class rooms have been established in all lab schools attached with 33 GCETs so that teachers can practice and observe teaching methodologies of ECE for better learning of toddlers. The impressions made to children during pre-nursery and nursery years can have a lasting impression on their educational development.

### British Council's CEO visits DSD resource center.

CEO and his team visited the ECE Resource Center at DSD in March, 2015. They were briefed about the establishment of 1225 ECE rooms in 36 district of Punjab. They were also briefed about the training of ECE teachers, Head teachers, Caregiver and enrollment of students in ECE classrooms. The visiting BC executive appreciated DSD efforts.

### Development of Teachers' Guide for ECE

DSD has developed Teachers' Guide on ECE which is according to ECE Curriculum, 2007. Activities which strengthen kids' cognitive and creative abilities have been incorporated in this book. This Teachers' Guide is very helpful for ECE teachers.

Ages	Fine Motor Skills	Gross Motor Skills	Educational & Social Skills	Intellectual Skills
Four Year Olds	Buttons or unbuttons buttons Cuts on a line with scissors Completes a six-to eight-piece puzzle Copies a "v" Buckles a belt Zips separated fasteners Adds five parts to an incomplete man	Walks up and down stairs one foot per step Skips on one feet Rides a bicycle with training wheels	Loves other children and having a "friend" Bases friendships on shared activities Seeks approval of friends Plays with small groups of children than adults Excludes children that they do not like Loves to whisper and tell secrets	Experiences trouble telling the difference between reality and fantasy Exaggerates in practicing new words Loves silly language and to repeat new silly words Vocabulary of 1200 to 1500 words Begins to identify letters in his name Begins to appreciate bugs, trees, flowers and birds Learns simple cards games and dominoes Develops an awareness of "bad" and "good"



## Responsibilities of Parents

During the first three years parents are the main influence in the child's learning experience and education. What parents do and expose their children to have a vast impact on the development of the child. Keeping in view the fact, a poster has been developed by the communication department on the responsibilities of parents.

**Role and Responsibilities of Caregivers:** It is important that when considering an early education facility, caregivers and teacher should have knowledge of their roles and responsibilities and should have sufficient skills in order to give full attention to kids' education. A poster has been developed for caregivers to aware them about their roles and responsibilities.

**Importance of play:** Child development experts agree that play is very important in the learning and emotional development of all children. Play is multi-faceted. Although it should be a fun experience for the child, often many skills can be learned through play. Play helps children learn relationship and social skills, and develop values and ethics. Play should always be considered an essential part of a child's early education. So a poster has been developed on the importance of play.

**Brain Development:** Early childhood is a crucial stage of life in terms of a child's physical, intellectual, emotional and social development. Growth of mental and physical abilities progress at an astounding rate and a very high proportion of learning take place from birth to age eight. So poster on Brain Development of Kids should be published to get awareness for teachers, parents and caregivers.

Children's rights are about treating children with the equality, respect and dignity to which they are entitled, not because they are the "adults of tomorrow", but because they are human beings today.



### Establishment of ECE rooms in 1148 Public schools with the support & collaboration of UNICEF and DSD in district T.T. Singh.

Keeping in view the importance of ECE rooms, DCO T.T. Singh took the 1st initiative to establish ECE rooms in all 1148 Public schools with the support & collaboration of UNICEF and DSD. In 1<sup>st</sup> phase, UNICEF will provide the funds & technical support for the establishment of 300 ECE rooms in T.T. Singh and training of teachers, head teachers, school council members and Caregivers. The District Govt. will provide the funds for the honorarium of Caregivers from the NSB. DSD will coordinate, support & provide the training to teachers, head teachers, Caregivers, School Council Members. DSD will provide the best & competent Resource Persons/Master Trainers for the training. The 1st phase will be completed till June, 2015.

### National Rural Support Programme (NRSP)

National Rural Support Programme NRSP Developed 100 ECE rooms in District Muzaffar Garh, Layyah & Rajanpur and handed over to DSD. Mr. Raza Qazi Project Coordinator & Akhtar Mirza Education specialist (EIE) Plan Pakistan appreciated the efforts of DSD for the establishment of 1225 ECE rooms in Punjab. These 100 ECE centers are monitored by DTSCs along with other ECE centers established by School Education Department.



DCO T.T. Singh Convening a meeting of Stakeholders in his office for the establishment of ECE rooms in whole district T.T. Singh

### LEARNING CORNERS IN ECE

According to the competencies given in National Curriculum there are six corners of ECE rooms:

1. Language Corner
2. Maths Corner
3. Science Corner
4. Reading Corner
5. Art Corner
6. Home Corner

Ages	Fine Motor Skills	Gross Motor Skills	Educational & Social Skills	Intellectual Skills
Five Year Olds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uses a knife</li> <li>Copies most letters</li> <li>Traces objects</li> <li>Draws crude objects</li> <li>Colors within lines</li> <li>Copies square, triangle and diamond shape</li> <li>Models objects from clay</li> <li>Laces shoes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tries roller and ice skating</li> <li>Catches ball with hands</li> <li>Jumps from heights</li> <li>Jumps rope</li> <li>Walks on stilts</li> <li>Skips</li> <li>Climbs fences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prefers playing in small groups</li> <li>Prefers friends of same sex and age</li> <li>Protects younger children</li> <li>Plays well with older siblings</li> <li>Washes hands before meals</li> <li>Respects other people's property</li> <li>Becomes competitive</li> <li>Develops sense of fairness</li> <li>Verbally expresses anger</li> <li>Loves to whisper and tell secrets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Names the day of the week</li> <li>Writes numbers from one to ten</li> <li>Retells main details of stories</li> <li>Recognizes the cause and effect of actions</li> <li>Uses a vocabulary of 2000 or more words</li> <li>Tells original stories</li> <li>Follows three-step command</li> <li>Recognizes square and rectangle shape</li> <li>Recognizes numerals 1-5</li> </ul>