

Focus area:

6. LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

The learning environment greatly influences children’s cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development. By creating a physically, psychologically, and socially safe and stimulating environment that offers a variety of developmentally appropriate materials, tasks, and situations, the educator encourages children’s learning through independent and group exploration, play, access to diverse resources, and interaction with other children and adults. By ensuring that every child feels welcomed, the educator gives children the message that every individual is respected, that each child and family is an important part of the classroom community, and that every child has opportunities to benefit from the shared community space and resources and to participate in maintaining them. By offering children a secure environment and accommodating specific learning needs, the educator encourages children to work individually and cooperatively, to engage in different kinds of activities, and to take learning risks. Outdoor areas of the school and community resources are also valuable components of a rich learning environment.

| PRINCIPLE | Indicators of quality | What have you observed? |
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| 6.1 The educator provides a learning environment that promotes each child’s wellbeing. | 6.1.1 The educator creates an environment that ensures each child’s sense of belonging and comfort. | |
| | 6.1.2 The educator shows respect for children by being interested in their feelings, ideas, and experiences. | |
| | 6.1.3. The educator creates an atmosphere where children are encouraged to express themselves. | |

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| | 6.1.4. The educator creates an environment that stimulates children to take appropriate risks for development and learning. | |
| | 6.1.5. The educator encourages each child to develop attachment and individual relationships with her/him. | |
| PRINCIPLE | Indicators of quality | What have you observed? |
| 6.2 The educator provides an inviting, safe, healthy, stimulating, and inclusive physical environment that promotes children's exploration, learning, and independence. | 6.2.1 The educator ensures that the learning environment is physically safe and easily supervised. | |
| | 6.2.2 The educator ensures that the space is inviting to the children and comfortable for them to engage in a variety of activities. | |
| | 6.2.3 The educator organizes the space into logically defined interest areas that support learning and development. | |
| | 6.2.4 The educator incorporates varied, plentiful, accessible and developmentally | |

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| | appropriate materials that stimulate children to explore, play, and learn | |
| | 6.2.5 The educator encourages children to participate in planning, arranging, and maintaining their environment | |
| | 6.2.6 The educator modifies the physical environment to meet the needs of individual children and groups of children. | |
| PRINCIPLE | Indicators of quality | What have you observed? |
| 6.3 The educator provides an environment that promotes the children's sense of community and participative management of children's behaviors. | 6.3.1 The educator communicates clear expectations for behavior and involves children in creating rules when appropriate. | |
| | 6.3.2. The educator creates an environment that is built upon democratic values and promotes participation. | |
| | 6.3.3 The educator uses consistent routines to promote children's self-regulation and independence | |



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| | 6.3.4 The educator guides children's behaviors based upon the knowledge of each child's personality and developmental level. | |
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Issa principles of Quality Pedagogy