

Smart Futures guide practices of high value in ECCE services to increase children's learning opportunities.

Teachers should:

- Foster teaching practices for individualised and cooperative learning (R1, R3, and R4).
- Emphasise strategic skills and learning according to children's developmental stage (R2).
- Increase family participation in children's education, assuring continuity of learning across the ECCE and home settings (R5, R6, and R7).

Recommendation 1

R1 **Strengthen flexibility within predictable routines for maximising children's learning time**

Routines

Actions

- Organize a learning routine that balances different types of activities and prioritizes small group work.
- Define flexible learning environments and transition strategies to implement during small and large group activities

Conceptual orientation

Resources

- 1 Routine activities
- 2 Pedagogical practices – With suggestions on learning environment and transitions
- 3 Support for children struggling with transitions
- 4 Suggestions to create learning centres.

Recommendation 2

R2 **Emphasize pedagogical experiences on prioritised learnings and skills**

Experiences

Actions

- Implement the age-differentiated pedagogical experiences for developing prioritized skills, covering different domains of development
- Place social-emotional learning at the core of the teaching process along with implementing specific SEL games to support children's development

Conceptual orientation

Resources

- 5 Portfolio of suggested pedagogical experiences and activities
- 6 Short social-emotional games

Recommendation 3

R3 **Master socioemotional and instructional support practices to provide individualized and group support**

Interactions

Actions

- Practise interactions with children using a list of suggested tips
- Schedule time for regular individualized follow-ups for each child

Conceptual orientation

Resources

- 7 Practices and tips for implementing positive interactions
- 8 Chart for recording and tracking individual follow-ups

Recommendation 4

R4 **Tailor teaching and learning practices based on children's needs and conduct a formative assessment**

Assessment

Actions

- Know each child's development and learning level and each group's interests, strengths and challenges
- Develop and implement individual as well as group strategies to protect children's learning, considering their challenges and strengths
- Prepare a pedagogical handover note to share with the next teacher (such as the primary school teacher if the child will be entering grade 1)

Conceptual orientation

Resources

- 9 Areas of inquiry and suggested assessment questions (formative assessment cycle, moments 1 and 2)
- 10 Guidelines to organize formative assessment information
- 11 Strategies to enhance learning (formative assessment cycle, moment 3)

Recommendation 5

R5 **Support families to provide enjoyable home learning experiences based on their daily routines and cultural strengths**

Experiences at home

Actions

- Encourage learning experiences and environments that build on the cultural strengths of communities, including values, oral traditions and culturally valued activities.
- Develop strategies to encourage the participation of fathers and other caregivers, apart from the mother, in early learning activities.

Conceptual orientation

Resources

- 1 Ideas to identify families' cultural strengths
- 2 Ideas to define activities and strengthen positive interactions at home
- 3 Ideas to set goals with families

Recommendation 6

R6 **Make communication with families simpler, more effective and diverse**

Communication

Actions

- Strengthen the quality of communication by using key insights to improve dialogues between teachers and parents.
- Introduce various forms of media, such as phone calls, text messages and community-based communication, to propose simple behaviours and address cultural and contextual barriers that hinder family engagement.
- Ensure that families are involved in assessing the interventions and activities they participate in.

Conceptual orientation

Ways to make communication with families simpler, more effective and diverse

Resources

- 4 Key insights to improve communication
- 5 Ideas to gather families' concerns and interests about children's learning
- 6 Successful experiences using phone calls and text messages
- 7 Community-based communication and examples to support children's learning

Recommendation 7

R7 **Actively involve families in school-led projects, such as volunteer programmes and literacy and numeracy initiatives.**

Family school exchanges

Actions

- Encourage families to engage in volunteering activities to support children's learning experiences.
- Establish at-home reading and numeracy learning strategies and increase access to books and digital resources such as songs, videos and audiobooks.

Conceptual orientation

Two examples of strategies to foster family participation in school-led projects

Resources

- 8 Ideas to involve families in volunteer experiences
- 9 Strategies to promote reading with families