Level 3 Children's Care, Play, Learning, and Development: Practice and Theory

Extended Investigation
Unit 331: Investigating current issues in children’s care, play, learning, and development in Wales

Pass Awarded

Learning Outcomes

Task 1	9	/ 9
Task 2	24	/ 30
Task 3	5	/ 15
Task 4	4	/ 14
Task 5	1	/ 20
Task 6	3	/ 12

Mark: 46 / 100 Assign Mark

Level 3 Children's Care, Play, Learning and Development: Practice and Theory

TIMESHEET must be submitted with the candidate's work

Centre Name/*Enw'r Ganolfan*:

Centre Number/*Rhif y Ganolfan*:

Candidate Name/*Enw'r Ymgeisydd*:

Candidate Number/*Rhif yr Ymgeisydd*:

Extended Investigation

The total time allowed must not exceed 15 hours. / *Ni ddylai cyfanswm yr amser sy'n cael ei ganiatáu fod yn fwy na 15 awr.*

The timed, supervised hours took place as follows: / *Dyma'r oriau gafodd eu goruchwylio a'u hamseru:*

Dates *Dyddiadau*			Time Allowed (15 hours) *Amser sy'n cael ei ganiatáu (15 awr)* Hours/*Oriau*	Minutes/*Munudau*
05	04	2022	5	00
06	04	2022	5	00
07	04	2022	5	00

Unit 331 Topic 2

Task 1

Introduction
In this investigation I will be discussing 'how care professionals/workers have a crucial role in promoting child's health from conception up to 19 years' and I will be exploring the following focus areas. For Focus Area 1 I will be discussing what health care professionals work together and how they support the development of the mother and baby during pregnancy while the mother is suffering from substance abuse, this will also include the scans that the mother will be having to ensure the babies health and development is not affected too much from the drugs. I have gained my information from secondary research, and I will be using qualitive data to ensure all my information is reliable and up-to-date. For Focus Area 2 I will be discussing what health care professionals work together and how they support the mother and baby's development through birth and the start of the baby's life while the mother is suffering from substance abuse and what help is available to the mother and baby to ensure the mother is able to adjust to being a parent and ensuring no drugs are used. I have gained my information from secondary research and will be using qualitive data to ensure all my information is reliable and up to date. For Focus Area 3 I will be discussing what professionals work together and how they support the mother's and child's health and development through the child starting school while the mother is suffering from substance abuse. I have gained my information from secondary research and will be using qualitive data to ensure all my information is reliable and up to date. I have chosen this topic because I have always grown up around children and have experience with a hand on child-based placement which has helped me gain more confidence within the course. From choosing my college course I have gained an understanding of drug abuse and how differently it can affect it can affect children and adults, I have become more aware that it is a very big factor in Wales and from doing research for this investigation I have had the opportunity to expand my knowledge even more enabling me to gain a better understanding of drug abuse and how differently people suffer, with the job sector I'm wanting to go into, hopefully this knowledge will help enable me to help people who are suffering from drug abuse. I'm also ale to expand my own knowledge of children's development and how it can affect the mother and baby within their health as well as the child's development. I will also gain a better understanding of what help is available for drug abuse and how drug abuse can come to an end.

Task 2
FA1: In my first focus aim I will be discussing a mother who is expecting a baby while suffering from substance abuse and which professionals and how they will support the babies and mother's health and development. Firstly, when the mother takes the first pregnancy test and it comes back positive the first step she needs to take is to make a phone call to her doctors, when the mother attends her doctor's appointment the doctor will firstly ask the mother to do another test which is more accurate and will give the doctor an indication how far along she is and once that is done the doctor will ask the mother questions about the drugs she have recently taken and explain that taking drugs while pregnant can cause harm to the babies health and development, the doctor will also offer the mother counselling to help with her mental health towards drugs, the doctor will also check the mother's weight, height will be recorded and urine samples may be taken at every antenatal appointment to ensure no new drugs are present and blood pressure is checked at every antenatal appointment. Once this doctor's appointment has taken place the mother will then be referred to a midwife who which will then begin to give the mother antenatal care, which is care from health professionals when you are expecting a baby. Midwives are presents at over 75% of births in the UK and have an important role in making decisions

about appropriate care in pregnancy, labor and after the birth. Midwives also use height and weight ratio to check for gestational diabetes. The midwife will also explain to the mother what help is available by giving her leaflets on how to overcome her drug addiction before the baby's health and development is affected, drugs can cause mental health issues towards the baby, increase the chances of having a still birth and can have a negative effect on the baby's weight and development. Once the midwife appointment is finished the mother will then need to attend an ultra sound with the sonographer to measure how far into the pregnancy she is with the pregnancy and to ensure the baby is not at any risk, while discussing with the mother what vitamins are available and are best to take while pregnant to ensure the baby has the best growth while in the womb, the sonographer will check the babies growth by measuring the growing abdomen. Depending on the mother's financial support she will also be given leaflets for food banks to help develop the mother's health to ensure her body is healthy to grow the child, the child also will not be able to grow if the mother is not containing the right amount of nutrition's and food which will affect the mother's and baby's development. Once the mother gets to 10 weeks pregnant she will be called for an ultrasound to check the baby's development and the sonographer will also be able to check if the mother's body is developing well while carrying the baby, the ultrasound will also be able to check if the baby is carrying hepatitis B, sickle cells or down's syndrome. All of these tests are carried out to reduce the risk of the baby being born with them and to help the mother get the best care while carrying and to ensure the baby's and mother's health and development is at the best it can. Once the mother gets to 16 weeks pregnant a social worker will be making visits to the mother to try and help her stay clear of drugs and ensuring the house is appropriate for a child to be living in, social services will also be in contact with the mother's doctor and midwife to ensure the baby is healthy, safe and developing inside the mother, they also have a duty to support the mother throughout the pregnancy ensuring the mother is coping with the change and responsibility. While social services are making home visits they will be following the 'Maslow's theory' which will help them ensure the mother has the basic needs to help herself and the baby. Once the mother get's further with her pregnancy her antenatal appointments will become shorter unless she is in need for some more support while at the appointment. All of these steps are taken to ensure the best growth and development for the baby while growing inside the mother, and ensuring the mother is able to cope with the change.

FA2: In this focus area I will be talking about the birth and postnatal stage. As this stage is approaching the mother will be in close contact with the midwife and doctor, as the birth gets closer the midwife will go over a birthing plan with the mother discussing how the mother would like the birth to go and explain to the mother what she should expect. Once the mother's labor has started she will be taken into hospital and supported by her midwife and the nurses, social services will also be informed that the mother is in hospital. While the mother is in labor the nurses will monitor the baby and mother to ensure both of their blood pressure is under control ensuring the baby and mother is not under too much stress because that will become dangerous for both baby mother's health. Once the mother has reached 10cm dilated she will be told to start pushing by her midwife and nurses. Once the baby has been born the mother and babies health will be checked and the mother will be advised to bottle feed and not breastfeed as it will help the baby develop without the drugs. Once the mother and baby has settled the next day the baby is checked over by a hospital nurse, the baby is checked for cleft palate, hip dislocation and the eyes and heart are checked to ensure the baby was not born with any of these health conditions, once all these health checks have been completed the hospital will discharge the mother and baby allowing them to go home. Once the mother and baby have returned home social services will make a visit to the home to ensure the mother is coping well with the baby and making sure the baby is a no risk of abuse or exposed to any drugs. Once the mother and baby have returned to home the midwife will also visit the home once a day for at least ten days but it is depending on how well the mother is coping with the baby and if the substances are still being used a lot, the midwife will also give the mother advice on the baby and answer any

questions the mother might be unsure on. Once the ten days are over and the midwife is happy that the mother is doing well with the baby, the mother will then be given a health visitor who is a fully qualified and registered nurse/ midwife and they will then start visiting the home instead of the midwife, it is very important that the health visitor gets access to the mother's and babies notes to ensure affective communication, all professionals are in need to follow 'Every Child Matter' legislation to ensure effective communication throughout all professionals to ensure all children are safe and healthy. This legislation was put into place after 'Victoria Climbe' and it is very important not the same mistake is made again with another child. After the health visitor has read through all the mother's notes and has had a conversation with the doctor and social worker, the health visitor will then begin to start visiting the home and making sure the baby is having the best possible upbringing and having the child's basic needs met. All of these steps are very important to the child's health and development ensuring the mother has a safe delivery and once the child has been born it is no longer exposed to any more drugs and encouraging the mother to better herself by staying off the drugs.

FA3: In this focus area I will be discussing later in the child's life and the professionals that are involved when the child is starting school. When the child is of age to begin school the school will be made aware of the sort of background the child is coming from and attend meeting to ensure 'Every Child Matters' act is being met, it is also important the school is made aware of this because the child could possibly get emotional about it in school or if other students find out it could lead to lack of friends or bullying. The school will also need to be made aware of the circumstances in case the mother isn't financially stable to buy the child school uniform the school can give the mother funding. The child starting school will help the child's development because they are around people their own age and have time to forget about what is going o at time if the substances are still present. Social services will also be in constant with the school because they will need to know if the child is coming into school in a tidy manner, it is also important for them to know if the child is coming into school hungry because if they are coming in hungry or untidy social services will need to be paying the home more visits. It is also the teacher's who are working with the child to keep track of the child's school/homework to ensure their developmental needs are being met at home and if they're not it is important to inform social services, this will help the child achieve there potential in school and later in life. As the child gets older they will also get offered a counsellor by the doctor because "taking drugs while being pregnant can cause mental health issue in the children" therefore a counselor will be put in place to help support the child's emotional development, the child could also experience bullying from other children in school and have small friendship group if the mother Is financially struggling from purchasing the substances therefore that will also have a negative affect on the child's mental health. It is important all the professionals have effective communication throughout this stage because to help the child develop in school and emotionally support the child through this hard stage.

Task 3: This evaluation will examine the values and principles that underpin 'How care professionals/ workers have a crucial role in promoting children's health care, play, learning and development from conception to 19 years.
FA1: During the first stages of pregnancy it is important for effective communication throughout the professionals. When the mother first goes to the doctors it is important the doctor writes down on the medical notes that she has had a positive pregnancy test and her living situation and it is important for them to write down about the substance abuse and what she is taking and how often she is taking it. It is also important all professionals should be aware of her situation and should made aware of all the given opportunities to get all the help available, she should not be treated differently or compared to another mother who haven't got a substance addiction equality should always been shown no matter the background they come from or their circumstances. All professionals should follow the 'Children's act 2004' to ensure the child inside the mother is always thought about and no

one gets neglected by the health care system. All of the professionals also have a responsibility to not discuss any other women to anyone but other professionals involved and the same equality should be shown to the substance abuse mother. Health care professionals should always work as a team and if anyone has any concerns they should discuss it with other health professionals and ensure it goes on the mother's notes to make any health care professionals aware for the future especially if something went wrong in the birth all the professionals should be aware.

FA2: During the birth and labor it is important that all the doctors and nurses work effectively with the midwife to find out what exactly the mother's birthing plan it as the midwife would of made an appointment with the mother to discuss it, labor and birth can be a very distressing time for the mother and baby therefore it is important to try and keep to the mother's wishes as much as possible but also making sure the mother and baby are not in any danger through the process, it is also important to ensure the mother is always aware of what is going on even if it something the mother didn't wish for it is important she is aware of what is happening because it will make it easier for the mother to do her part and it reduces the chances of the mother and baby getting dangerously stressed. The hospital doctor also needs to keep the mother aware of when the checks on the baby and herself will be done, they've also got a duty to report back to the midwife if they find something wrong with the mother or baby and get it treated straight away, this important to ensure the baby and mother does not become seriously unwell while recovering.

FA3: When the child starts to attend school, it is important the school's head teacher and the classroom teacher has a meeting with social services and the mother to get an idea of the background the child is coming from, it is also important social services stays in contact with the school to ensure the child is reaching their targets in school and they can do this by having regular meetings and emailing in between for any concerns. It is also important the school, mother and social services keep contact with the child's counsellor to ensure everyone who works with the child is aware of what the child is struggling with and to know if there is anything making the child emotionally unwell, by everyone who works with the child being aware will help the child overcome this barrier. It is important that no member of the staff within the school treats the mother or child any differently because of the background they come from, equality should always be shown to families no matter of their background or circumstance. It is important for all professionals to have effective communit5cation and follow the 'Every Child Matters' act to ensure the child has their needs met and reduces the risk of the child becoming exposed to any abuse or neglect. All professionals involved with the child also need to follow the 'child's act 1998' this is important because it ensures the best support for mother and child, it helps reduce the risk of any harm coming to either of them.

Task 4:
FA1: In the first focus area it is important that 'Maslow Hierarchy Of Needs Theory' is met to ensure the mother is providing the baby with basic needs of food when developing in the womb. It is also important the mother is working her way up Maslow's pyramid of needs to ensure a safe and secure environment for the baby and by the mother moving up the pyramid of needs ensures the mother is slowly becoming stable and will be able to prove for herself and the baby throughout the pregnancy and once the baby has been born. It is also important the 'Children's Act 1989' legislation is followed to ensure good and effective care to the mother while carrying the baby and ensuring the mother meds the baby's needs by consuming different things that will also benefit the baby and meet the baby's needs for developing. Maslow's theory is used by professionals to ensure the basic needs of the mother is being met and her health and well being is capable of carrying and keeping the child healthy.

FA2: In the second focus area ‘Equality Act 2010’ is very important to ensure the health professionals at the hospital while the mother is attending her final appointments and giving birth ensuring her needs are met and is given equal care and not compare to other mothers because of her background and provide the mother with support that is needed once the child has been born. Once the child has been born ‘Every Child Matters Act’ needs to be followed to ensure all the child’s needs are met while in the care of the hospital and ensuring the child is safe and the mother is capable of caring for the child before getting discharged from hospital to ensure the baby is safe. ‘Maslow’s Hierarchy Of Needs’ pyramid states the first thing that should be met is basic needs (food, water and clothing) therefore the hospital needs to be confident that the mother can provide that for the child before getting discharged. The ‘United Nations Convention On The Right Of The Child’ states the child has a right to have basic needs met and to be cared for by a responsible adult ensuring their safety, this ensures that social services makes regular visits to the home after the mother and baby gets discharged ensuring the mother is providing the child with safety and meeting their needs.

FA3: In focus area 3 ‘Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs’ pyramid also takes part in the child’s life ensuring the child’s needs are being met in school. The ‘United Nations Convention On The Right Of The Child’ also states that the child has right to feel safe therefore it is the teacher’s job and staff within the school to ensure the child feels safe and develops within school. The ‘Children’s Act 1989’ provides an overview of the dimensions, health, education, emotional and behavioral development, this legislation is what in place to ensure that children’s needs are being met and this helps to make teachers ensure they are meeting children’s educational development by following this legislation. As the child gets older social services also need to ensure they are following ‘Every Child Matters’ by ensuring the child’s safety is not at any risk and their needs are being met. Equality Act 2010 must be followed within the school and social services therefore the child must not be treated any differently when attending school and children should be educated within school that at no circumstance they should treat other children differently. Equality should also be shown towards the mother when collecting the child from school or attending school events with the child. ‘Healthy Child’s Programme 2020’ ensure that every school can supply a school nurse, by doing this it will help the children to feel safe and reduce the chances of them becoming more unwell or accidents getting infected if they injure themselves in school, it will also help make the mother aware that her child is safe in school If they injure themselves and reduces the chances of a hospital trip.

Task 5: This assessment will analyze how my learnt knowledge of the role care professionals/ workers has on promoting children’s health care, play, learning and development can be used to bring about change in children’s care play learning and development provision in the 21st century Wales.

FA1: For the first focus aim it discusses about pregnancy. At this stage professionals should always be talking to each other and they should all beware of when something changes and all health care professionals should be following the ‘Every Child Matter’s Act’ which has been brought in to ensure the safety of children after lack of communication within health professionals, this is to ensure another child is not in danger due to lack of communication. Also, within the pregnancy sector a lot has changed within the ultrasounds, you are now able to see the baby as well as listen to the heartbeat and with the growth of technology there are now more depth scans available which will help the professionals to identify if there is something wrong with the baby caused by the mother taking drugs. Pregnancy tests have now developed from urinating on a single grain and depending if it sprouts results in the women being pregnant, more accurate pregnancy tests have now been discovered which will help the mother get a better view if she is pregnant which will help make the mother aware of that she should stop the substances. These changes can be implemented into a child care-based setting by, making leaflets that explain the ultra-sounds that are now

available and what they can discover, display boards can also be made explain the affects of taking substances while carrying a baby and around a new baby.

FA2: For the second focus aim it discusses about birth a labor. At this stage it is very important that the nurses and hospital doctor has close contact with the midwife making sure they are aware of the mother's birthing plan, it is also important for the midwife to have close contact with the mother and making sure the mother is prepared for the arrival of the baby. The nurses, doctors and midwife have to ensure they are following 'Equality Act 2010' which has been put in place to ensure everyone is treated equally and fairly no matter the circumstances or the background the mother/family may have, the legislation has been put in place to ensure quality care for her mother and baby. Many different things have changed for labor and birth especially for pain relief, until the late 1800s health professionals would use laudanum which contained alcohol and other ingredients such as honey, saffron or cinnamon but the pain relief used now is much stronger and more affective. Tackling illnesses have also improved by having children vaccinated against different illnesses to help reduce the risk of children becoming seriously unwell from life threatening illnesses.

FA3: In this focus area it is important that the teachers working with the child follow the 'Equality Act 2010' to ensure the child is not treated any differently to the rest of the child. The professionals working with the child at this age also need to follow the 'Every Child Matter's Act' to ensure the child is getting treated fairly, this act was brought in to ensure no child gets neglected by the health care system and reduce more cases of 'Victoria Climbia'. The professionals working with the child at this age also have a responsibility to follow 'Maslow Hierarchy Of Needs' all professionals working with the child need to ensure they are following this theory especially social services to ensure the child's basic needs are met and ensuring the child is working their way up the pyramid because it is important the child's basic needs are met before the child can develop in school and later in life. These legislations were put into place to ensure school is a safe and friendly environment for children because children being anxious about going to school can have a negative effect on their mental health, it will also put a barrier up for children to be successful in school.

Task 6: This reflection will discuss how my research and learning supports my own individual practice moving forward.

From this investigation I have widened my knowledge about substance abuse and the harm it can bring to children, the information I have discovered will help me in practice to move forward by being aware of the signs from the child that a family could be struggling with substance abuse and being aware of how I can support the parents and the information I can provide them with in hope it helps them improve, it has also helped me gain more knowledge on how I can support the child as it can affect the child's mental health and well-being. I will also be able to provide the setting with guidelines and suggest holding regular meetings with the parents to discuss how the child is doing in school the setting and what the child is like at home to try and put the right support in place for the child in order for the child to succeed.

The benefits from the information I have gathered is that I am now able to support children within practice on their mental health and drug abuse at home. I have also gained more knowledge about the pregnancy stage and how it has improved over the years, and I have gained knowledge on why it is important for professionals to have affective communication and to follow legislations, I can take this into practice by making parents aware of what ultrasounds are available and how they are able to access them, this also helps me to ensure I have knowledge of the legislations and how to follow them and I am abler to express how important it is to the placement that they are followed and I am able to understand the consequences if they are not followed correctly.

By making changes to my practice will also have an impact on everyone else's practice and will help other gain an understanding of why it is important and the impact it can have on the child. I can also put ideas forward on how to make awareness based on the knowledge I have from this investigation, I can do this by helping them do display boards or leaflets which will also help them improve their own practice and help with parents/ families who are struggling from substance abuse.

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