

The Diverse Pathways for Early Childhood

Child Development Framework

This framework offers a non-pathologising guide to understanding how children play, communicate, regulate, sense, move and learn. It recognises that development is diverse, dynamic and deeply personal.

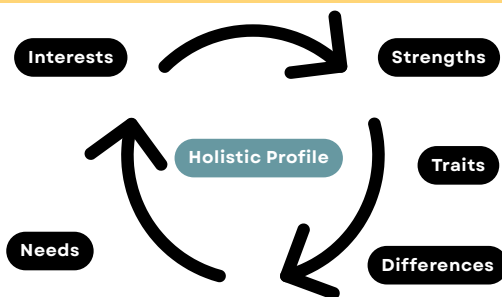


Four lenses through which to understand diverse development

| Developmental Insight | Embodiment | Enriching Environments | Areas of Unmet Need |
|--|--|--|--|
| <i>Developmental insights are explored through different patterns, for example, play patterns or communication patterns. This helps educators to build detailed pictures of development.</i> | <i>We need to ensure children feel safe enough to emot, move, regulate, sense and process. Embodiment explores how development is enacted and lived through our minds and bodies</i> | <i>Enriching environments explores eco-system and how we can ensure they feel valued, affirmed and sensitively supported. Enriching environments is evolving and expands rather than limits.</i> | <i>Children may have needs that are not yet understood or met by the environments and relationships around them. By recognising this, we can begin to respond in ways that are sensitive, timely and meaningful.</i> |

Holistic Profile

Development is always understood through a holistic profile of **interests, ruling passions, unique strengths, traits/ways of being, differences and needs**. Only when we understand our children holistically can we support in attuned and sensitive ways.



Meaningful moments over Milestones

What moments carry unique meaning for this child and their family? Development is a winding pathway, we explore what matters, not what a checklist expects.

Unique Developmental Insights

Room for your own professional interpretation. What are you noticing about this child's unique pathway? This helps us to recognise that development is not fixed or prescriptive but always evolving.

Curiosity Questions

Curiosity questions enable us to explore areas of support in non-judgemental and attuned ways.

Intersectionality Insights

Children's experiences do not exist in isolation and are not treated neutrally. Intersectional insights enables educators to explore different identity markers and how they might shape experience.

Quality of Life and Affirming Outcomes

Our education system is fixated on neuronormative and pre-defined outcomes. At Diverse Pathways, we are invested in quality of life and outcomes that are developmentally meaningful and affirming of the child's experiences.

Neurodiversity-Affirming Check-in

Our series of questions for each developmental insight and pattern of development enable educators, and specialists to check in whether they are honouring neurodiversity affirming practice.

Visit www.diversepathways.org to find out more and to download our **Autistic Play Patterns Guidance**

Strength's led Attuned Affirming Humanising Enriching