The Early Childhood Framework for Quality (EFQ)

DECE’s vision for high-quality early childhood programs

What you will need

#1

#2

What is the EFQ?
The Early Childhood Framework for Quality (EFQ) describes the DECE’s vision for high-quality early childhood education programs in NYC. This framework replaces the Program Quality Standards (PQS) in the Fall of 2019.

The EFQ is grounded on the following:
- The Framework for Great Schools (FFGS)
- THE NYCDOE’s commitment to Equity and Excellence for All;
- The Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS); and
- The expertise and experience of the DECE’s central office, site support staff, programs, and community partners.

Why a new Framework?
As our Division evolves, we need new tools to support our quality improvement work across multiple age groups and settings.

The EFQ builds on the theoretical foundation of the Program Quality Standards (PQS), which served as the Division’s vision for quality between 2014-2019. The implementation of the EFQ will start in the fall of 2019 as we move to a unified birth-to-five system and support our mission to build the best early care and education system in the country.
How is the Early Childhood Framework for Quality (EFQ) organized?

Elements and Practices

The EFQ is comprised of 6 research-based Elements of quality, aligned with the NYCDOE’s Framework for Great Schools. Each Element identifies 5 to 6 Practices for both leadership teams and teaching teams that are representative of high quality, and are applicable to all center-based early childhood age groups and settings.

EFQ: Elements and Practices

- EFQ: 6 Elements and 68 Practices.
- Most Practices listed under program leadership teams have parallel Practices under program teaching teams.
The Division of Early Childhood Education (DECE) believes that high quality 0-5 programs...

1. respect and value differences. (trust)
2. create safe and positive environments. (supportive environment)
3. advance play-based learning and responsive instruction (rigorous instruction)
4. promote families’ roles as primary caregivers, teachers, and advocates. (strong family-community ties)
5. work collaboratively towards continuous quality improvement. (collaborative teachers)
6. demonstrate strategic leadership. (effective school leadership)

What are similarities and differences between the EFQ and the PQS?

(Think about structure & content!)
Shifts from PQS

Structural:
• More direct alignment with the FFGS
• Emphasis on leadership teams

Content:
• Emphasis on equity and access
• Shift to 2-generational approach
• Emphasis on data cycle (classroom and program level)
• Amplified focus on operational quality

Practices & Examples of Practice: Supplementary Resource

Examples of Practice
• Each Practice will have a set of Examples of Practice meant as a supplementary resource.
• The Examples of Practice are not an exhaustive lists of look fors. They illustrate what the Practices could look like; ways to help you understand what the Practices mean.
• The Examples of Practice are still in development and in the year 2019-2020 your site support staff may share with you as you set goals together.
Standards and other Frameworks for Early Childhood Education Quality

Early Childhood Framework for Quality (EFQ)

3-K for All and Pre-K for All Policy Handbooks

Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS)
Putting it all together:
During this time together we learned:
- What the EFQ is
- How the EFQ is organized
- The EFQ’s supplementary resource: the Examples of Practice
- Standards and other Frameworks for ECE quality
Thank you!

Please reach out with any questions:
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