



ACSI Early Education

Early Educator Core Competencies

ACSI early education core competencies are topics related to teaching young children as areas of study to guide professional growth of skills, strategies, and pedagogy. Christian early educators are effective when they understand the importance of educating and discipling the whole child while fostering individual growth with regard for God’s developmental design for each child. Professional growth utilizing research-based best practices leads to improved teaching and learning.

FSC Domain & Constructs	EE Core Competencies	EE Constructs of Competencies (non-exhaustive)
Purpose Responsibility Holistic Teaching Integrated Worldview God's Story Questioning Partnership Spiritual Formation	Educator Spiritual Development Mission of Christian education	Biblical studies
Relationships Supportive Leadership Leadership Interdependence Family Relationships Community Engagement Mentoring Students Insular Culture Christlike Teachers Prosocial Orientation Caring Environment	Relationships, Interactions and Child Guidance	Relationships with students; Class management; Self-Regulation
	Cultural and Linguistic Diversity	Family cultures English language learners
	Leadership	Organizational leadership Classroom leadership
	Community Relationships <hr/> Family Relationships	Relationships with local services for children and families <hr/> Relationships with parents and families
Teaching and Learning Feedback Collaboration Systems Thinking Data-Driven Improvement Professional Development Outcomes Focus Culture of Improvement Individualized Instruction Best Practices Engaged Learning Behaviors for Learning	Learning Environment and Curriculum	Curriculum using content knowledge to build meaningful learning; Early learning standards; Use of technology
	Observation, Screening and Assessment	Documenting and assessing Objective observation
	Child Development and Learning: Spiritual Child Development and Learning: Social/Emotional Child Development and Learning: Physical Child Development and Learning: Cognitive	Growth and development of whole child: spiritually, socially, emotionally, physically, cognitively Age-appropriate teaching for development of child
Expertise & Resources Qualified Staff Responsiveness to Special Needs Resources Resource Planning Resource Constraints Response to Special Needs	Professionalism	Growth as a professional; Ethics; Coaching; Mentoring
	Early Intervention, Special Needs, and Inclusion	Individual needs of learners Early intervention strategies Differentiated instruction
Well-Being Stress Healthy Living Resilience	Health, Safety and Nutrition	Safe environments Health and wellness of students National Health and safety standards