**I am confident that children have access to exciting and challenging play opportunities whilst in my care**

Evidence for Self-Assessment – Quality of Care and Support, Quality of Environment

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| **Examples of good practice** |
| * A wide range of stimulating and challenging play experiences are available. * Children can create their own play with appropriate interventions from me * Children are happy and stimulated by the play opportunities. * I carry out appropriate risk assessments (risk/benefit analysis) |

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| **Reflective Questions** |
| How do I know the play space is exciting and challenging for the children?  How accessible are these play spaces to all of the children in my care?  How well do these opportunities support children’s risk taking, creativity and problem solving?  How effective are my risk assessments?  How well do I manage my own feelings with regard to risk and challenge whilst respecting the child’s right to lead their own play? |

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| **Additional evidence: If you are undertaking SVQ Social Services (Children and Young people) you may find the questions below could provide evidence of your prior learning. You should discuss these with your assessor.** | ✓ |
| How do I work with others to assess what is necessary to create and maintain a safe and secure environment? Plan and Organise Environments for Children and Families PC1 |  |
| How do I ensure the physical environment meets regulatory and health and safety requirements and protects the child from danger and harm? Plan and Organise Environments for Children and Families PC2 Plan for and Support Self Directed Play PC12 |  |
| How do I develop and maintain systems and procedures for risk assessment and health and safety, according to work setting requirements? Plan and Organise Environments for Children and Families PC3 |  |
| How do I adapt the environment to meets the child’s, parents and key people’s preferences and needs, according to their developmental stage. Plan and Organise Environments for Children and Families PC4 |  |
| How do I ensure that the environment promotes inclusion and active participation of the child, parents and key people? Plan and Organise Environments for Children and Families PC 5 Plan for and Support Self Directed Play PC11, PC13 |  |
| How do I ensure the environment provides opportunity for exercise and physical play? Plan and Organise Environments for Children and Families PC10 |  |
| How do I organise and structure the physical environment to maximise sensory experiences and play and learning opportunities of different types? Plan and Organise Environments for Children and Families PC11 |  |
| How do I plan and organise the safe use of physical space to provide a comfortable and stimulating environment for the child? Plan and Organise Environments for Children and Families PC12 |  |
| How do I encourage the child, parents and key people to be actively involved in decisions about their environment? Plan and Organise Environments for Children and Families PC14 |  |
| How do I organise resources so they are accessible to the child, parents and key people and enable choice and independence? Plan and Organise Environments for Children and Families PC 15 Plan for and Support Self Directed Play PC11 |  |
| How do I adapt the environment to ensure it is equally accessible to all children? Plan and Organise Environments for Children and Families PC17 |  |
| How do I encourage the child to take responsibility for themselves and others and become more independent, according to their stage of development and needs? Plan and Organise Environments for Children and Families PC29 |  |
| What is the meaning of person centred/child centred working and the importance of knowing and respecting all children and young people as an individual. Plan and Organise Environments for Children and Families KP11 |  |
| The prime importance of the interests and wellbeing of children and young people Plan and Organise Environments for Children and Families KP12 |  |
| Which risk assessments do I use? Promote Health Safety and security in the work setting PC20 Plan for and Support Self Directed Play PC21 Plan for and Support Self Directed Play KP32, KP33 |  |
| What are the principles of risk assessment and risk management? Promote Health Safety and security in the work setting? KP34 |  |
| How do I ensure the play spaces provide for a range of different play types, meet the needs of children and can be adapted by them? Plan for and Support Self Directed Play PC6, PC7, K16 |  |
| How do I involve children in creating the play spaces? Plan for and Support Self Directed Play PC10 |  |
| How do I enable children to experience and explore risk during play and how do I balance that risk with the benefits of challenge and stimulation? Plan for and Support Self Directed Play PC20, PC24, KP29, KP30 |  |
| When do I intervene in play? Plan for and Support Self Directed Play PC25 |  |
| Why is it important for children to choose and explore play spaces for themselves? Plan for and Support Self Directed Play KP20 |  |
| Why is it important to leave the content and intent of play to children and to allow play to continue uninterrupted? Plan for and Support Self Directed Play KP22, KP23 |  |