

Module Title:	Law for Early Childhood Practice
Language of Instruction:	English
Credits:	5
NFQ Level:	7
Module Delivered In	2 programme(s)
Teaching & Learning Strategies:	The learning outcomes will be achieved through the following teaching methodologies: • Lectures - communication of knowledge and ideas • Problem Solving Exercises – learners will work as part of a team and will work together to resolve various legal scenarios. • Class Discussion/Debate - learners will be encouraged to actively participate in the class sessions which will develop their analytical and communication skills. • E-Learning – It is envisaged that the module will be supported with on-line learning materials. • Self-directed independent learning - the emphasis on independent learning will develop a strong and autonomous work and learning practice
Module Aim:	The aim of this module is to give learners a sound understanding of the Irish Legal System and of the provisions of law which impact upon the care and education of children.
Learning Outcomes	
<i>On successful completion of this module the learner should be able to:</i>	
LO1	Identify the main sources of law within the Irish legal system and evaluate their respective importance.
LO2	Differentiate between the rights of the married and unmarried family in Ireland under the Constitution and legislation particularly around guardianship, custody and access to children and consider the need for reform in child and family law in order to meet changing trends in society;
LO3	Analyse and articulate the legal obligation of the Child and Family Agency to protect children in Ireland and apply this to practical situations.
Pre-requisite learning	
Module Recommendations <i>This is prior learning (or a practical skill) that is recommended before enrolment in this module.</i>	
No recommendations listed	
Incompatible Modules <i>These are modules which have learning outcomes that are too similar to the learning outcomes of this module.</i>	
No incompatible modules listed	
Co-requisite Modules	
No Co-requisite modules listed	
Requirements <i>This is prior learning (or a practical skill) that is mandatory before enrolment in this module is allowed.</i>	
No requirements listed	

Module Content & Assessment

Indicative Content

Introduction to the Irish Legal System

• Sources of law; • Court structure and Jurisdiction in particular having regard to child and family law.

Guardianship, Custody & Access to Children

• Parental Rights and Duties • The Guardianship of Infants Act 1964, as amended • The Children and Family Relationship Act 2015 • UNCRC and how it has been incorporated in Irish law to date (in particular the principles of child participation and the "best interests" of the child) • ECHR • Custody and Access • Custody Disputes between Parents • Custody Disputes between Parents and Outsiders • Voice of the child • Children's Rights to include the right to education

Protection of Children

• Role and Duty of the Child and Family Agency/Tusla under the Child Care Act 1991, as amended; Children First Act 2015. • Voluntary Care • Removal of child to safety by member of An Garda Síochána • Care Proceedings • Children in need of special care and protection • Children's Residential Centres • Constitutional Rights of the child and parents/family.

Assessment Breakdown

%

Project

100.00%

No Continuous Assessment

Project

Assessment Type	Assessment Description	Outcome addressed	% of total	Assessment Date
Project	Learners will be required to demonstrate achievement of the learning outcomes through continuous assessment. This work may take the form of a project, presentation, case analysis, essay or problem based assessment. It will require the learner to identify and analyse areas of the child and family law which are in need of reform, articulate and discuss any proposals put forward for such reform and debate their merits.	1,2,3	100.00	n/a

No Practical

No End of Module Formal Examination

SETU Carlow Campus reserves the right to alter the nature and timings of assessment

Module Workload

Workload: Full Time		
<i>Workload Type</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Average Weekly Learner Workload</i>
Lecture	12 Weeks per Stage	2.00
Estimated Learner Hours	15 Weeks per Stage	6.73
Total Hours		125.00

Workload: Part Time		
<i>Workload Type</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Average Weekly Learner Workload</i>
Lecture	12 Weeks per Stage	1.50
Independent Learning	15 Weeks per Stage	7.13
Total Hours		125.00

Module Delivered In

Programme Code	Programme	Semester	Delivery
CW_HWECE_B	Bachelor of Education (Honours) in Early Childhood Education and Practice	5	Mandatory
CW_HWECE_D	Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood Education and Practice	5	Mandatory