Year 10/11 Child Development Vocabulary List



Adapt – make something suitable for all children.

Additional needs – a term used to indicate that a child requires extra support or services to enable them to fully participate in activities.

All areas of development – physical, cognitive/intellectual, communication and language, social and emotional.

Analyse – examine (something) methodically and in detail, typically in order to explain and interpret it.

Associative play – sharing resources but playing alone.

Caesarean section – birth through an incision made in the abdomen.

Compare – estimate, measure, or note the similarity or dissimilarity between.

Co-operative play – when children are playing with each other.

Development – the gaining of skills and knowledge over time.

Down's syndrome – a biological disorder, which occurs during embryo development when the cells are dividing and an error occurs causing developmental delays.

Egocentric – thinking of only yourself and not the feelings or wishes of others.

Embryo – the stage of pre-birth when the egg has been fertilised and development begins.

Emotional bonds (attachment) – having a connection with a person.

Evaluate – form an idea of the amount, number, or value of; assess.

Expected milestones – development that is expected at a particular age.

Explain – to make something clear or easy to understand by describing or giving information about it.

Explore – inquire into or discuss (a subject) in detail.

Foetus – this is what a baby in the womb (uterus) is called after 8 weeks.

Full term – a baby that is born at or around 40 weeks of pregnancy.

Hazard – potential for an environment, activity and/or resource to cause harm.

Milestone – a stage or event in a process (developmental norms).

Neglect – the failure to care for a child properly.

Parallel play – playing alongside others but not playing with them.

Premature – born before the expected date of arrival. Medically, this is before 37 weeks of pregnancy.

Risk assessment – a process of evaluating what might cause harm to people (the potential risks) and making sure measurements are in place to manage the risk and prevent harm.

Risk – likelihood of an environment, activity and/or resource causing harm.

Solitary play – playing alone.

Spina Bifida – is caused when the spine and spinal cord of a baby in the womb (uterus) fail to develop properly.

Unoccupied play – early form of play where the baby does not interact with others and makes movements with their body.