

**Senior Secondary Course**

**376 - EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE  
AND EDUCATION**

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**Book-1**



विद्याधनम् सर्वधनं प्रधानम्

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## *A Word with You*

*Dear Learner,*

*Welcome to the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) course at the senior secondary level. Globally, it is undisputed that the foundation to lifelong development, learning and imbibing of attitudes and values is dependent on a responsive environment in the early years. The nation's commitment to provide quality care and education to young children requires that we create awareness about the significance and other aspects of ECCE. NIOS plans to do this at the school stage.*

*The curriculum for ECCE for the senior secondary level course has been designed in pursuance of the above. The self-learning material of the course has been divided for your convenience into two volumes. The first volume has two modules and nine lessons. The second volume consists of three modules and 13 lessons. The total course comprises of five modules and 22 lessons. Each lesson includes activities to help you master the concepts, gain practical experiences and help make learning meaningful. Intext questions and terminal exercises have been incorporated to help you assess your own learning and get feedback as you go along in the course.*

*Let us share some details of the course with you:*

**Module I: Early Childhood Care and Education** aims to develop an understanding of Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) and provisions for promoting quality ECCE in the country for all young children.

**Module II: Fundamentals of Child Development** focuses on the process of growth and development of young children as well as ways and means to promote holistic development of all children.

**Module III: Curriculum, Practices and Progress** discusses the need and importance of making ECCE programme as child-centered, interactive, participative, joyful and meaningful.

**Module IV: Organisation and Management of ECCE Centre** is organised around the basic concepts of setting up and management of an ECCE centre through optimal utilisation of infrastructural, human and financial resources.

**Module V: Diversity and Inclusion** discusses the significance of diversity and ways of promoting inclusion in the ECCE centre. It also discusses the importance of timely intervention to support children with special needs.

*The course also includes a practicum manual through which you will gain a better understanding of young children.*

*While going through the course, you may have some doubts and queries. We hope you will share your doubts and queries with your tutors during Personal Contact Programme (PCP) sessions.*

*To enrich your learning further, live MuktaVidyaVani programmes are delivered on a regular basis. These can be accessed by logging on to [nios.iradioindia.in](http://nios.iradioindia.in)*

*A sample question paper along with the question paper design and marking scheme is also provided at the end of the second volume for the practice and preparation for examination.*

*It is hoped that you will find this self-learning material to be informative, interesting and useful.*

*We wish you all success and a bright future.*

*If you face any difficulty, please feel free to write us. We look forward to your feedback and suggestions regarding this course.*

*Course Committee*

## How to use the Study Material

Congratulation! You have accepted the challenge to be a self-learner. NIOS is with you at every step and has developed the self-learning material in 'Early Childhood Care and Education' with the help of a team of experts, keeping you in mind. If you follow the instructions given, then you will be able to get the best out of this material. The relevant icons used in the material will guide you. These icons have been explained below for your convenience.

**Title:** It gives a clear indication of the contents within. Do read it.



**Learning Outcomes :** These are statements that explain what you are expected to learn from the lesson. The objectives will also help you to check what you have learnt after you have gone through the lesson. Do read them.

**Notes:** Each page carries empty space in the side margins, for you to write important points or make notes.



**Intext Questions:** Very short answer self check questions are asked after every section, the answers to which are given at the end of the lesson. These will help you to check your progress. Do solve them. Successful completion will allow you to decide whether to proceed further or go back and learn again.



**Suggested Activities:** Certain activities have been suggested for better understanding of the concept.



**What You Have Learnt:** This is the summary of the main points of the lesson. It will help in recapitulation and revision. You are welcome to add your own points to it also.



**Terminal Exercises:** These are long and short questions that provide an opportunity to practice for a clear understanding of the whole topic.



**Answers to Intext Questions:** These will help you to know how correctly you have answered the questions.

**Glossary:** An alphabetical list of difficult words related to subject used in lessons has been provided and explained for better understanding.

**Web Resources:** These websites provide extended learning. Necessary information has been included in the content and you may refer to these for more information.

Module Name	Lesson Number	Lesson Name	Mode of Assessment TMA/PE	
Early Childhood Care and Education	01	Early Childhood care and Education: Meaning and Significance		PE
	02	Early Childhood in India		PE
	03	Needs and Rights of Children	TMA	
	04	ECCE Policies, Schemes and Programmes in India		PE
	05	Issues and Directions in ECCE		PE
Fundamentals of Child Development	06	Growth and Development		PE
	07	Domains of Development		PE
	08	Stages of Child Development: -Prenatal; and -Birth to Three years		PE
	09	Stages of Child Development: - Three to Six Years - Six to Eight Years		PE
	10	Care of Children in Early Years		PE
	11	Play and Early Learning		PE
Curriculum, Practices and Progress	12	Planning Developmentally Appropriate ECCE Curriculum	TMA	
	13	How Children Learn (Early Learning and Teaching)		PE
	14	Methods of Child Study	TMA	
Organisation and Management of ECCE Centre	15	Profile of an ECCE Centre	TMA	
	16	Administration and Management of an ECCE Centre		PE
	17	Qualities and Role of an ECCE Teacher		PE
	18	Involvement of Parents and Community	TMA	
	19	Smooth Transition	TMA	
Diversity and Inclusion	20	Understanding Diversity		PE
	21	Inclusion : Concept and Practices		PE
	22	Early Identification and Intervention		PE

Total Lessons = 22 Lessons

Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) = 06 Lessons

Public Examination (PE) = 16 Lessons

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