

## Understanding Child Development for Children aged 0-6 Years Mobile App



This is a free resource for social workers, early year's workers and parents. It is designed to ensure that social workers, those who work in early years and other professionals in child care have instant access to high quality information on child developmental norms relevant to the 0-6 year's age group. This is the first app in a series of 3 mobile apps focusing on child development.

The free resource helps you:

- Access information and pertinent video links in relation to child developmental milestones.
- Utilise theoretical frameworks, via succinct knowledge summaries, video links and hyperlinked references to enhance an understanding of child development and its relevance to practice.
- Draw on significant legislation and policy relevant to work with children and families in NI.
- Utilise and reflect on pertinent case studies which are based on realistic scenarios in practice.
- Critically reflect on social work / early year's observational skills and knowledge.
- Make decisions based on evidence whilst on practice placement or within the work setting.
- Enhance your professional competence in relation to decision making, based on observations and assessment of child development.
- Understand the impact of child neglect on child development.

The Northern Ireland Social Care Council developed this innovative mobile application for Child Development in partnership with the University of Ulster and Queens University Belfast. The app content is underpinned by the expertise of the two universities through both authors, Dr Anne Campbell and Professor Mary McColgan from the Social Work Departments at Queens University Belfast and the University of Ulster, who were commissioned to write the content.

The app also benefited from input from the social work, early years and education professionals who joined the Child Development App Steering Group convened by the NISCC.

The need for this innovative tool was identified by the Office of Social Services who jointly funded its development along with the Skills for Care and Development (the sector skills Council for Social Care and Early Years).

The app presents a cost effective method of delivering educational information and guidance literally at your fingertips and for this reason, the development of the app has been warmly welcomed by employers across all sectors in child care service provision.

The app is available to download free from iTunes and Google Play at the following links;

**IOS/Apple:** <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/understanding-child-development/id721681546?mt=8>

**Android:** <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.paperbag.child>