

ANNEX A. DEFINITIONS AND METHODOLOGY

Parental and community engagement

Parental and community engagement refers to the formal and informal relations between parents or community members with ECEC services. The scope of community includes, for example, neighbourhoods, NGOs, faith organisations, private foundations and services focusing on child development, such as social and health services.

Structural quality

Structural quality consists of “inputs to process-characteristics which create the framework for the processes that children experience”. These characteristics are not only part of the ECEC location in which children participate, but they are part of the environment that surrounds the ECEC setting, *e.g.*, the community. They are often aspects of ECEC that can be regulated, though they may contain variables which cannot be regulated (Litjens and Taguma, 2010).

Process quality

Process quality consists of what children actually experience in their programmes – that which happens within a setting. These experiences are thought to have an influence on children’s well-being and development (Litjens and Taguma, 2010).

Methodology

Data and information has been collected through the OECD Network on ECEC’s “Survey for the Quality Toolbox and ECEC Portal” (2011) and the OECD’s desk-based research. All sources used for data and information are listed below each figure or table, and a full list of used references can be found at the end of the document.



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