



Opportunities Exchange

Child Care Management Software & Child Learning & Development

April, 2024

WHY CHILD LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT?

Teachers need tools to help them do their complex jobs well. The myriad of responsibilities—from planning to teaching to documentation to family communication—require multiple types of tools that build on best practice and research, allow standardized formats for documenting learning and development, and provide means for data sharing and analysis in support of family partnership and data-informed teaching practices.

Child Care Management Software (CCMS) systems include lesson plans and links to state learning standards designed to help your teachers plan, successfully implement, and uniformly document developmentally appropriate classroom activities. Embedded tools in the CCMS systems make documentation and assessment less time consuming for teachers to complete and easier for them to share with families. You can view assessment data in the CCMS for one child, for a classroom, or compare data between classrooms to assess trends and patterns and to support your teachers in using data to improve their practice.

HOW USE OF A CCMS SUPPORTS CHILD LEARNING & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LESSON PLANNING

- **How easy is it for teachers to access lesson plan templates based on the ages of children in the classroom, the time of year, or other factors?**
- **How much time does it take for your teachers to document their lesson plans in your prescribed format?**
- **How easy is it for your teachers to share lesson plans with each other?**

Teachers can use CCMS features to support lesson planning. Administrators can easily view lesson plans and provide input, as needed.

CHILD OBSERVATION & ASSESSMENT

- **How easily can teachers document observations in the classroom? For one child, a group of children, or the whole classroom?**
- **How much time does it take for teachers to contextualize their observations based on developmental milestones? Based on previous observations of that child?**

CCMS not only include a consistent location and format for observations, but allow quick and easy access to data useful for contextualization and essential for quality teaching.

PARENTS AS CHILDREN'S FIRST TEACHERS

- **How long does it take for teachers to send parent information about classroom activities to parents?**
- **How easily can teachers send observation or learning information to specific parents?**

A CCMS gives teachers tools to automate communication (including photos and videos) around classroom activities and thereby increase coordination around learning between classroom and home.

