

DM222 Children's Ministry Skills

Australian College of Theology name: *Children's Ministry Skills*

Learning Outcomes

1. To introduce you to various approaches that ministry to children can take;
2. To develop your practical skills in relation to ministry among children;
3. To provide an opportunity for supervised practical work.

Content

Section A: Theoretical Study and Skills Development (70%)

1. Communicating with children: different learning styles; creative Bible teaching techniques; evangelism and children; puppetry; drama; clowning; story-telling skills; mime; learning through games; sketching and other visual media
2. Pastoral care of children and families: children with special needs; the evaluation and effective use of follow-up and discipling material
3. Children and worship: including cognitive, attitudinal, moral, values and spiritual formation in both formal and informal settings; use of music; faith development in children, prayer with children
4. Children's ministry teams; working as part of a church leadership team; planning; programming; evaluation techniques
5. Training children for ministry
6. Group management of children, eg. Behaviour management of groups and individuals
7. Care and responsibility for children (duty of care requirements)

Section B: Ministry in Practice (30%)

8. Christian ministry among children in a particular church or para church organisation, including a minimum total of 20 hours field work. Of this, at least 5 hours are to be spent in observation, at least 8 hours in ministry by the candidate, and at least 5 hours in supervised reflection upon observation and practice. (These hours exclude preparation and writing up time).
9. In addition to and distinctly different from Section 8, candidates are required to have significant involvement in ONE of the following:
 - (a) The planning, preparation and conduct of a camp of at least 48 hours duration for children;
 - (b) The planning and conduct of a one-off children's event (eg., vacation Bible school, etc)

(c) The organising and conduct of a children's ministry leadership training program for use in the candidate's local church

(d) A program of ministry to children as approved by the teaching college.

OR, as an alternative to 8 and 9:

10. Christian Ministry among children including a minimum of 30 hours of fieldwork. Of this at least 7 hours are to be spent in observation, at least 12 hours in ministry by the candidate, and at least 7 hours in supervised reflection upon observation and teaching (these hours exclude preparation and writing up time).