

| AQF LEVEL                                  | AQF LEVEL 8 CRITERIA – GRADUATE DIPLOMA  | PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES   |
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| <b>PURPOSE</b>                             | The Graduate Diploma qualifies individuals who apply a body of knowledge in a range of contexts to undertake professional/highly skilled work and as a pathway for further learning.   |   |
| <b>KNOWLEDGE</b>                           | Graduates of a Graduate Diploma will have advanced knowledge within a systematic and coherent body of knowledge that may include the acquisition and application of knowledge and skills in a new or existing discipline or professional area  | <p><i>Graduates of the Graduate Diploma of Early Childhood Education will have:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Specialised knowledge about current and historical theories, practices, policies and debates in early childhood education and care</li> </ol>   |
| <b>SKILLS</b>                              | <p>Graduates of a Graduate Diploma will have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• cognitive skills to review, analyse, consolidate and synthesise knowledge and identify and provide solutions to complex problems</li> <li>• cognitive skills to think critically and to generate and evaluate complex ideas</li> <li>• specialised technical and creative skills in a field of highly skilled and/or professional practice</li> <li>• communication skills to demonstrate an understanding of theoretical concepts</li> <li>• communication skills to transfer complex knowledge and ideas to a variety of audiences</li> </ul> | <p><i>Graduates of the Graduate Diploma of Early Childhood Education will be able to:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Critically and appropriately apply theories, practices, policies and debates in early childhood education and care</li> <li>3. Apply specialised and relevant knowledge within a variety of early childhood education contexts with children aged birth to 5 years</li> <li>4. Identify and implement appropriate inclusive strategies to support all young children with their learning and development, including diverse groups such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, migrants and students from non-English speaking backgrounds</li> </ol> |
| <b>APPLICATION OF KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS</b> | <p>Graduates of a Graduate Diploma will demonstrate the application of knowledge and skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to make high level, independent judgements in a range of technical or management functions in varied specialised contexts</li> <li>• to initiate, plan, implement and evaluate broad functions within varied specialised technical and/or creative contexts</li> <li>• with responsibility and accountability for personal outputs and all aspects of the work or function of others within broad parameters</li> </ul>  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Demonstrate teamwork and leadership within early childhood education settings</li> <li>6. Reflect on and evaluate actions, practices, policies and strategies within early childhood settings</li> </ol>  |