

## DIFFERENT WAYS, ONE GOAL?

International approaches to quality:  
regulation and assurance in early childhood



### Quality development in discourse – Kita!Plus!

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Against the background of quality recommendations for ECEC settings in Rheinland-Pfalz, (see Ministerium 2014) researchers and practitioners are using the discourse to (further) develop the quality of work geared towards parents, families and the social infrastructure. The approach “Qualitätsentwicklung im Diskurs” (Quality development in discourse) evolved through a close-knit discourse between research and practice. This process was closely guided by an advisory council of the *Land*/federal state and by representatives of different ECEC stakeholders in Rhineland-Palatinate (e.g. ECEC providers and parents). The following aims are crucial to the approach: *Discourse*. Work within this approach aims to use the discourse at all levels and in all phases of quality development, which results in a VALUE-driven stance that offers guidance for the pedagogical practice. *Practical Approach*. The basic principle of this approach consists in offering on-site support to the pedagogical teams for clarifying and analyzing the individual situation of parents, families and the social infrastructure. The insights gained are used to draw conclusions relevant to the work of the pedagogical team. *Compatibility*. This approach is concerned with eight key areas of work geared towards parents, families and social infrastructure. These areas are based on the “Bildungs- und Erziehungsempfehlungen” (educational recommendations) for ECEC settings in Rhineland-Palatinate (Ministerium 2014). The ECEC curricula of some other *Länder*/federal states also refer to the form and content of these eight areas. Finally, the implementation of self-evaluation in ECEC settings is an important concern pursued throughout this approach. In this contribution, the ECEC experts take into perspective the individual conditions on-site, their own attitude and the attitude of the team. They make use of the discourse and strengthen the quality of their work geared towards parents, families and the social infrastructure.

#### References:

Ministerium für Integration, Familie, Kinder, Jugend und Frauen Rheinland-Pfalz (2014). Bildungs- und Erziehungsempfehlungen in Kindertagesstätten in Rheinland-Pfalz plus Qualitätsempfehlungen. Berlin.

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