Professional Dispositions

ECD: Exceptional Learning and Inclusion

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* **Describe which dispositions from your assigned article you perceive are your strengths and which ones are areas of opportunity for growth.**

After reviewing the article, I do believe I hold some characteristics of strengths from the list. I am currently a lead teacher for a company called Bright Horizons. As the lead, I have a lot of responsibility to make sure my classroom runs effortlessly. The professional dispositions that I think vigorously represent me are one, two, three, and seven. Every child at the center has a portfolio from infancy until kindergarten. Inside of these portfolios is their family background, the children's interests and dislikes, and evaluations of their strengths and weaknesses. Every month I go through each child's portfolios and update them, making sure I am staying up on everyone's progress. Every day each child has to have two evaluations uploaded to our system that track their progress and development throughout the year. Over the years I have progressed in this area. In the beginning, I had a hard time staying on track with this task; overtime I learned to have patience, studied the material, and asked for advice from peers.

Another area of strength of mine is understanding the needs of each of my students. I do this by observing them throughout the day through activities, projects, and social interactions; creating an environment where all children can thrive and prosper means a lot to me. I observe their body language, listen to them, and incorporate their ideas and thoughts into the lesson plans, helping them achieve success.

Diversity is one of Bright Horizons' heart principles; before this job, I was not aware of diversity and how to implement it inside the classroom. Being at this center has taught me the importance of understanding each family's background and culture. I create diversity by reading stories that depict different families and cultures; for example, Todd Parr is one of my favorite authors. He has a range of books that covers trendy topics. Another way I create diversity in the classroom by displaying family portrays on the walls. These photos are at the children's eye-level, so they have the chance to look at the photographs throughout the day. I have noticed this wall helps some of the children who have rough drop-offs. I have created family events where parents could share their cultural background by reading or bringing in a dish to share and much more.

Being a life longer is something I hope to be forever; education is always changing and evolving, which means learning is valuable to provide my students with the best learning experience. It is only fair to give them the best version of myself; I genuinely believe all children deserve outstanding educators. I love asking for advice from those who have more experience and knowledge than me. If something does not make sense to me or I need clarification, I have no issue with seeking advice and learning new skills and experiences.

I feel the dispositions that are areas of growth for me are eight, nine, and eleven. I do not always have the best attitude, although it does not affect my work and interaction with my students and parents. I still want to handle my emotions more constructively, I have improved, but I could be better when I am upset; it is written all over my face. I need to learn to be professional at all times and when to express my thoughts and feelings at the correct and appropriate time.

Collaborating with other professionals is another area that is not my best suit. Although I often seek advice from my peers, I think it would be fantastic to collaborate with professionals outside the school setting to brainstorm ideas and thoughts. Another disposition I would like to master is being more organized and prepared at all times. However, I have grown in this area, there is room for improvement; for instance, I don't always get planning time when it’s needed; I want to learn how to incorporate getting this task done inside the classroom or possibility at home.

* **Explain which resources from**[**Ashford Career Service website (Links to an external site.)**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qzz_ZxJCd9Y)**and the video *Discover Career Services at Ashford* you think will highlight your strengths and enhance your areas of growth.**

I believe the resources that will highlight my strengths and enhance my growth from Ashford Career Service is Portfolium, which allows me to showcase my work and talents. I like that I can upload assignments and projects to this platform, allowing employers to see my growth and journey at Ashford University. Self-Assessments is another tool I think will be helpful; these assessments give me the chance to understand my skills—personality, strengths, and weakness. These assessments will help me become the best version of myself. Career Exploration will help enhance my knowledge in my field of work and understood the ins and outs of my program thoroughly. Lastly, marketing myself is another tool that will help sharpen my resume skills, cover letters, and other skills.

* **Discuss how reflecting on these ideas at this point in your degree program will help contribute your success in the program as a whole.**

Reflecting on these ideas at this point in my degree program will help contribute to me becoming the best version of myself. Before I graduate, I hope that I have all the skills and knowledge to be successful in my career field. I passionately believe Ashford University will help accomplish that for me; it is so many programs at my fingertips, it is no excuse for me not to advance in my personal and professional life.