WHEELOCK COLLEGE

THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATIONAL STUDIES AND LEADERSHIP

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**EDU 480**

**Development Of A Professional Teacher Portfolio**

**Assignment Name:** Philosophy of Education and Teaching Style Statement

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**Group:** A

***Philosophy of Education and Teaching Style Statement***

I believe that true education endows and empowers individuals with the skills to thrive now and in the future, especially in the domains of physical, intellectual, emotional and social interactions (PIES). Being taught these lifelong skills are important and teachers play a crucial role in guiding and creating opportunities for children to thrive and learn through the use of challenging activities that are realistic and the use of a learning environment that is safe and diverse.

Believing that children learn through process orientated schemas rather than one that is product orientated, the learning experience should be one that consists of more concrete experiences as well as hands-on activities to help children build on previous experiences. This would not only open their worlds to discovery and exploration but help children to develop creativity and problem solving skills, which are essential in life.

I believe that each child has an individualized learning pace and readiness level. Hence, catering to the diverse needs in order to match up each child and helping unleash their full potential through meaningful activities, is one of the major roles to play. Differentiated instruction should be used to cater to the different levels and needs and interests of children, making sure that all children have the opportunity to work on tasks that are challenging yet realistic for them. Also, by being granted autonomy and freedom to choose from the different activities provided, children would learn to make decisions and enjoying the learning process through their most preferred learning methods (drawing, verbalization, writing, reading, etc).

School should be filled with lessons and activities rich in cultural pedagogy and of course universal design, to cater for children with special needs. This can be done by adopting strategies such as small group teaching, the use of learning corners and a well planned environment which would facilitate better classroom management. By having such a setup, all children would be exposed to a fair learning environment which caters and supports to their needs. Not only would the typical children learn to accept those with diverse needs, they would also be able to learn from one another. This would be a stepping stone into creating a more tolerant society as chances are given for those that are different to learn.

In order to achieve better results in all those mentioned above, the understanding and bond between school and home is also essential. As parents and teachers are children’s first teachers, working together would help reinforce values and strengthen the learning experience from school and home, vice versa. Parent involvement would also boost the quality of education as they could share their expertise, and both parents and children would gain trust in school and home due to the transparency and understanding towards the values of the school.

All in all, I believe that each child is an individual and should be taught using the most suitable methods for them. Children with special needs should also not be left out as I believe that all children should have equal opportunity to learn and grow with the proper guidance and with activities that are developmentally appropriate for their age and abilities. By creating opportunities, providing guidance, trust and support, the teacher (and parent) plays a crucial role in paving the way of success for children by empowering them with life skills and strengthening their development in the PIES domains.