

Part B Project Summary

2010/0401 (Revised)

Project title: "A school-based play therapy program for children with developmental disabilities"

(1) Goals and Objectives:

This project aims at enhancing the social and emotional development of children in a special school for intellectual disability through a school-based play therapy program. The objectives of this project are: (i) to test the effectiveness of a play-based program using an experimental design with pre and post data collection; and (ii) to develop skills in using therapeutic strategies of play in teaching students with special educational needs so that their social and emotional development can be enhanced.

(2) Targets and Beneficiaries:

The proposed project will benefit at least 60 students and their families. It will also benefit teachers and specialist staff through introducing them the strategies of play therapy.

(3) Implementation Plan:

(a) Duration: November 2011 to October 2013

(b) Process: (1) Conduct pre-program assessments in the primary school section. Students who meet the selection criteria will be invited to participate in the program, either in individual or group mode, depending on the child's abilities. They will be assigned to one of the four batches in which training sessions will be given in designated time. Parents will be invited to involve in follow-up stage. (2) Provide training to teachers and specialist staff involved. (3) Run the 4-month play-based program for each of the batch of students within the project period plus follow-up parent-child sessions. (4) Conduct post-program assessments immediately after the program to evaluate the effectiveness of the program. (5) Carry out data analysis in pre- and post-assessments and video clips in process. (6) Prepare reports and disseminate results.

(c) Collaboration with other parties: This project is a collaborative work between our school and the Department of Educational Psychology, CUHK (Collaborator: Professor Angela Siu)

(4) Products:

An E-book will be developed and uploaded to the internet and mobile devices. A free public seminar will be arranged in Hong Kong to share with professionals working with SEN children the use of play as a developmental program for children in special schools.

(5) Budget:

The total cost of this project will be HK\$300,000, including staff cost of \$251,307, equipment cost of \$36,693, general expenses of \$11,000 and contingency of \$1,000.

(6) Evaluation:

The program will be evaluated by using an evidence-based approach. Data will be collected at pre- and post-program periods. Both quantitative as well as qualitative data will be gathered for analysis.