

## CLASS Alignment Information for Early Childhood Mixed-Age Settings

All CLASS™ tools are based on the understanding that there are effective teacher-child interactions across age-levels. While specific examples may vary based on children's ages, there is also a great deal of similarity in the kinds of interactions that promote child learning and development.

The dimensions used in CLASS to define and measure effective teacher-child interactions are similar across the three early childhood age-level tools (infant, toddler, and preschool). This cross-age alignment allows for the use of Toddler CLASS in mixed-age settings, such as family day homes, that serve infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.

Infant CLASS Dimensions	Toddler CLASS Dimensions	Pre-K CLASS Dimensions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Relational Climate (RC)</li><li>● Teacher Sensitivity (TS)</li><li>● Facilitated Exploration (FE)</li><li>● Early Language Support (ELS)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Positive Climate (PC)</li><li>● Negative Climate (NC)</li><li>● Teacher Sensitivity (TS)</li><li>● Regard for Child Perspectives (RCP)</li><li>● Behavior Guidance (BG)</li><li>● Facilitation of Learning &amp; Development (FLD)</li><li>● Quality of Feedback (QF)</li><li>● Language Modeling (LM)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Positive Climate (PC)</li><li>● Negative Climate (NC)</li><li>● Teacher Sensitivity (TS)</li><li>● Regard for Student Perspectives (RSP)</li><li>● Behavior Management (BM)</li><li>● Productivity (PR)</li><li>● Instructional Learning Formats (ILF)</li><li>● Concept Development (CD)</li><li>● Quality of Feedback (QF)</li><li>● Language Modeling (LM)</li></ul>

### Infant and Toddler CLASS Alignment

- Infant Relational Climate is similar to Toddler Positive Climate.
- Teacher Sensitivity is included in both Infant and Toddler CLASS.
- Infant Facilitated Exploration is similar to Toddler Facilitation of Learning and Development.
- Infant Early Language Support is similar to Toddler Language Modeling.

### Toddler and Pre-K CLASS Alignment

- Toddler and Pre-K tools include several of the same dimensions; Positive Climate, Negative Climate, Teacher Sensitivity, Regard for Child/Student Perspectives, Quality of Feedback, and Language Modeling.
- Toddler Behavior Guidance aligns with Pre-K Behavior Management.
- The last indicator in Toddler Behavior Guidance aligns with Pre-K Productivity (minimal wandering and minimal waiting).
- Toddler Facilitation of Learning and Development has indicators that align with Pre-K Instructional Learning Formats (active facilitation and children's active engagement) and with Pre-K Concept Development (expansion of cognition).

Information adapted from Teachstone's [Considerations for Observing in Family Child Care](#) (Appendix A).

For additional information about using CLASS in VQB5 please refer to [Overview of CLASS in VQB5](#).