

ECAD4016

Who am I teaching?



Prifysgol Cymru
Y Drindod Dewi Sant
University of Wales
Trinity Saint David

Yr Athrofa
Institute of Education
Addysg i Gymru Education for Wales

Exploring the influence of the
environment on the individual learner

www.athrofa.cymru

Human development is a cultural process. As a biological species, humans are defined in terms of our cultural participation. We are prepared by both our cultural and biological heritage to use language and other tools and to learn from each other.

Barbara Rogoff (2003:03)



In local communities, we need to make real the African proverb: 'it takes a village to raise a child', with the nurture of children being everybody's business. Children need nurture from parents and families; play, exercise, exploration and experience of managed risk in their neighbourhoods with friends, role models, and experience of spirituality.

Education needs to provide more than just academic attainment targets; core skills, expectation, values and purpose in life are all essential. Government should be there to support local services based on needs and evidence, with protection of human rights.

Professor Sir Al Aynsley-Green 2017



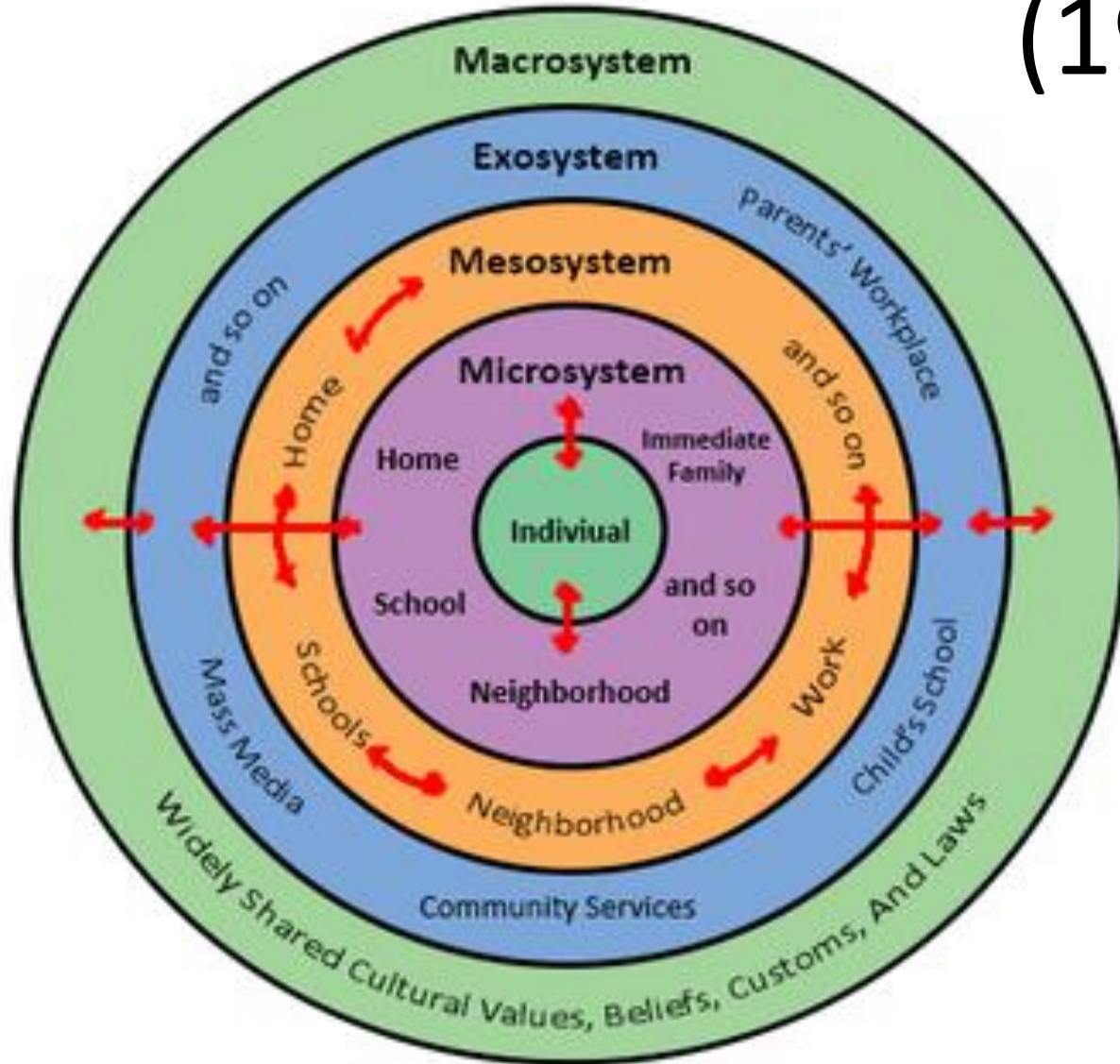
The team around the child



Create a diagram of the team / people and the world surrounding the child. Group and categorise the various influences.

Which influences might be the greatest?

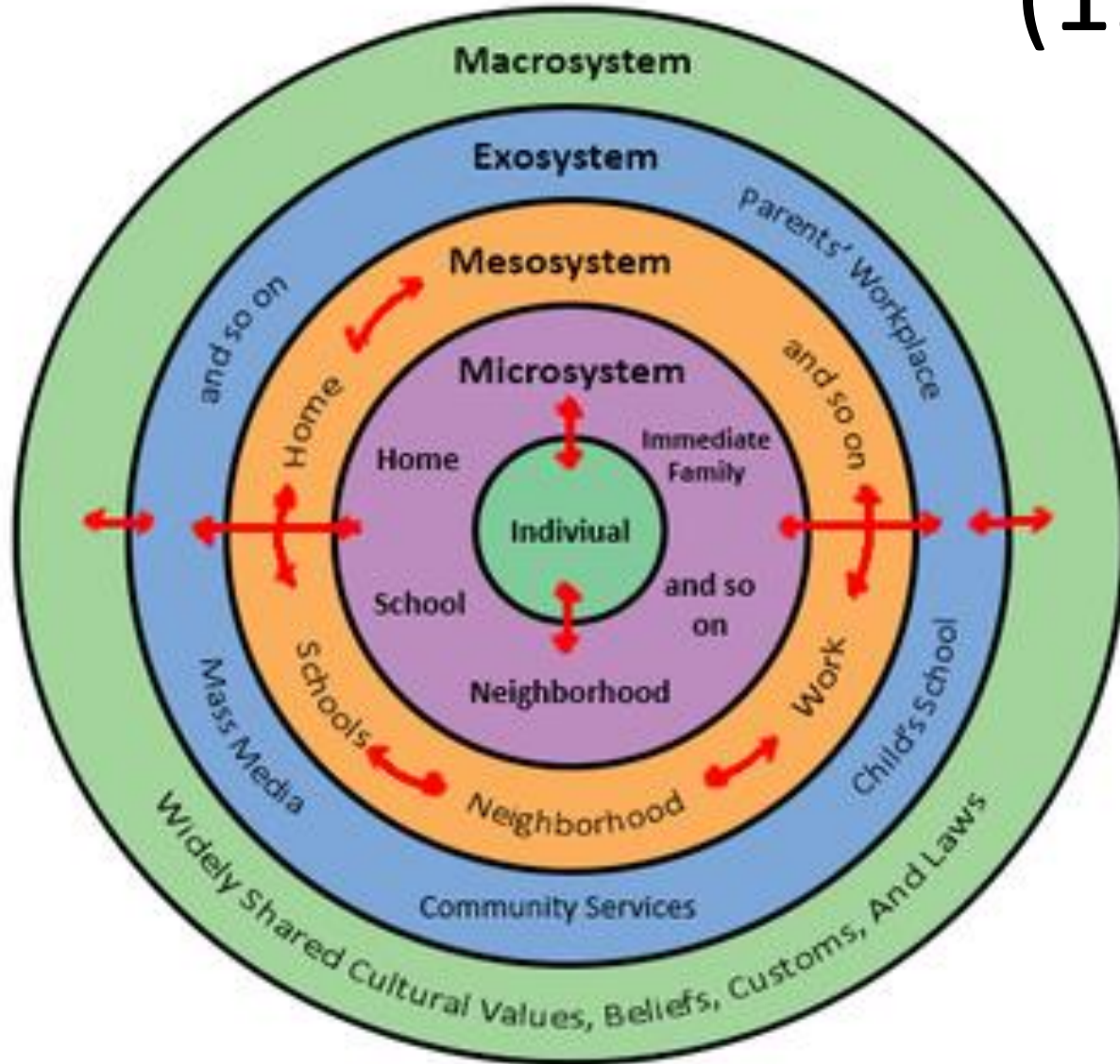
Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Systems Theory (1979)



The interaction between factors in the child's maturing biology, their immediate family/community environment, and the societal landscape fuels and steers development.

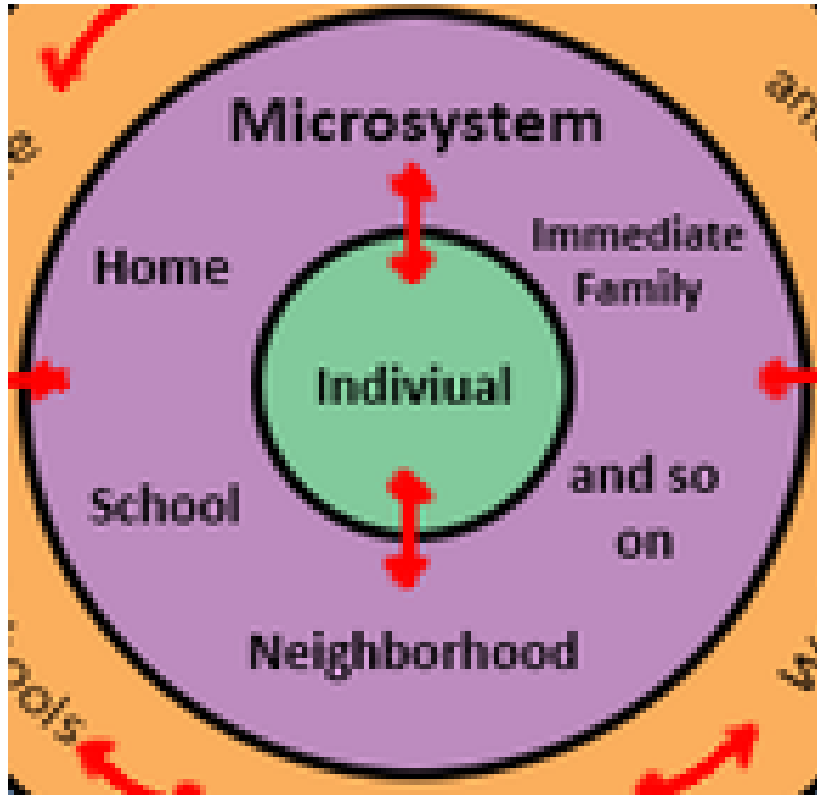
To study a child's development then, we must look not only at the child and their immediate environment, but also at the interaction of the larger environment as well

Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Systems Theory (1979)



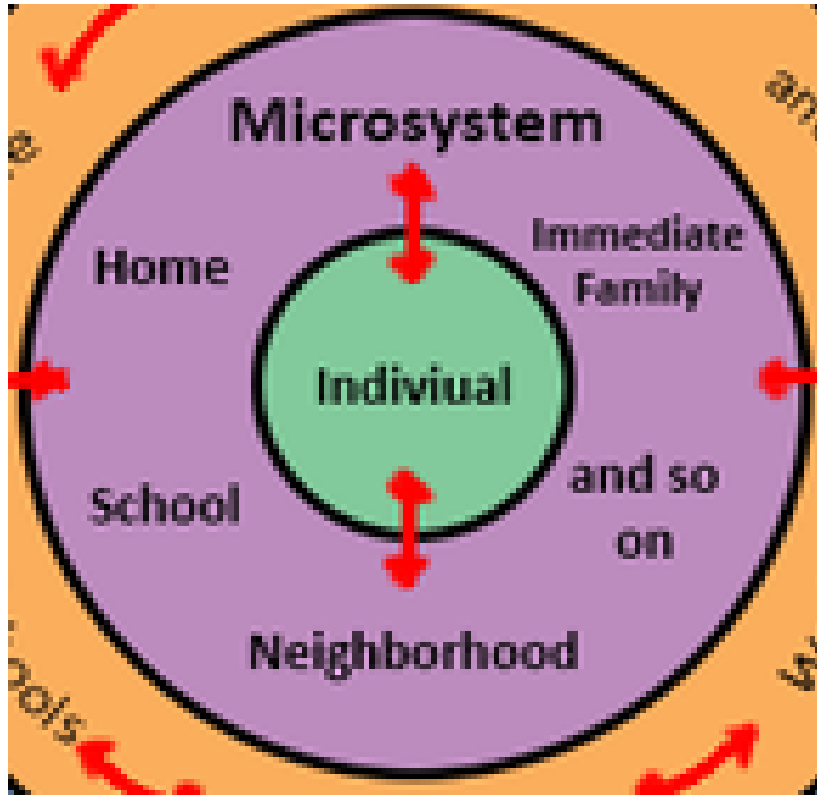
The closer a circle or level is to the child, the greater is the degree of immediate influence it has on the development of the individual.

Changes or conflict in any one layer will ripple throughout other layers.



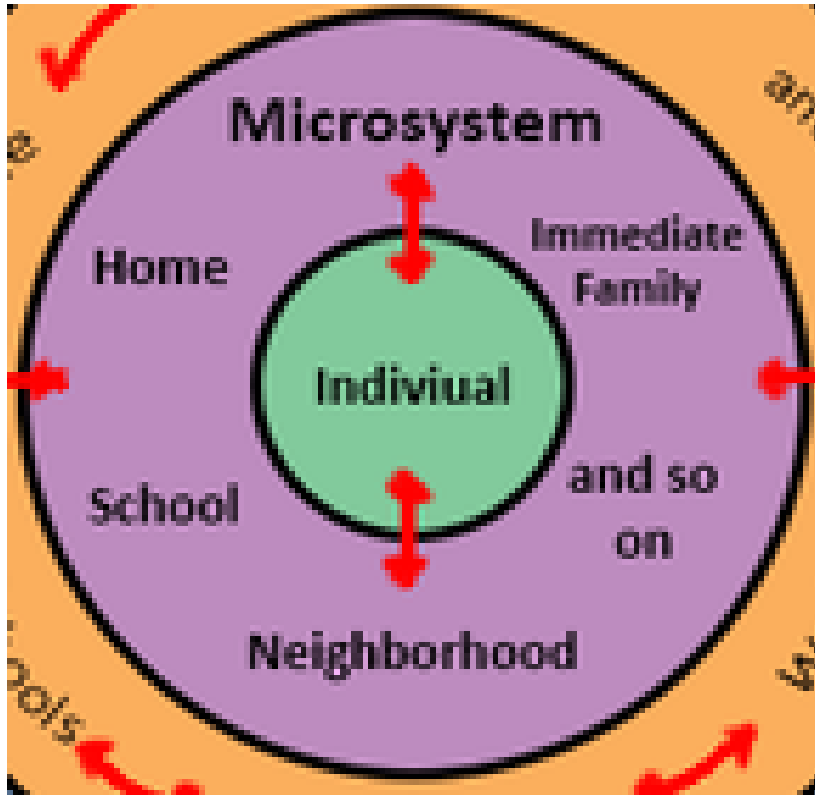
The **microsystem** are aspects that a child may encounter on a daily basis in their immediate surroundings.

A child's socially influenced characteristics like habits, temperaments and capabilities influence the child's behaviour.



More nurturing and supportive interactions and relationships will likely to foster a better environment for development.

Bronfenbrenner proposed that many of these interactions are bi-directional: how children react to people in their microsystem will also affect how these people treat the children in return.

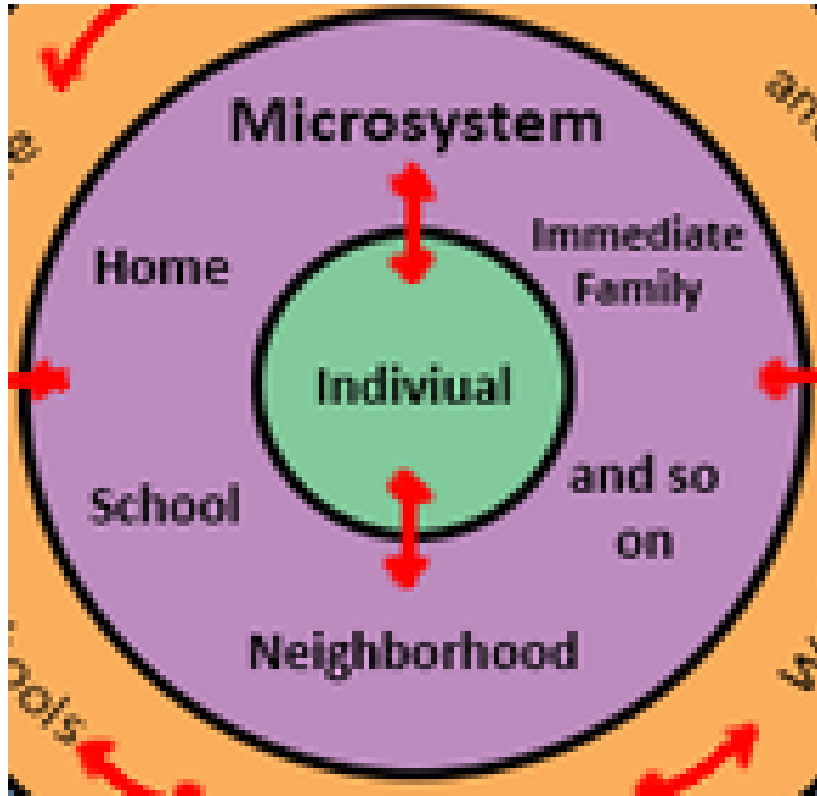


So now we understand that Ella is not just a passive recipient –she’s an active participant in this ecological model.

The way she responds to family, friends and teachers has an impact.

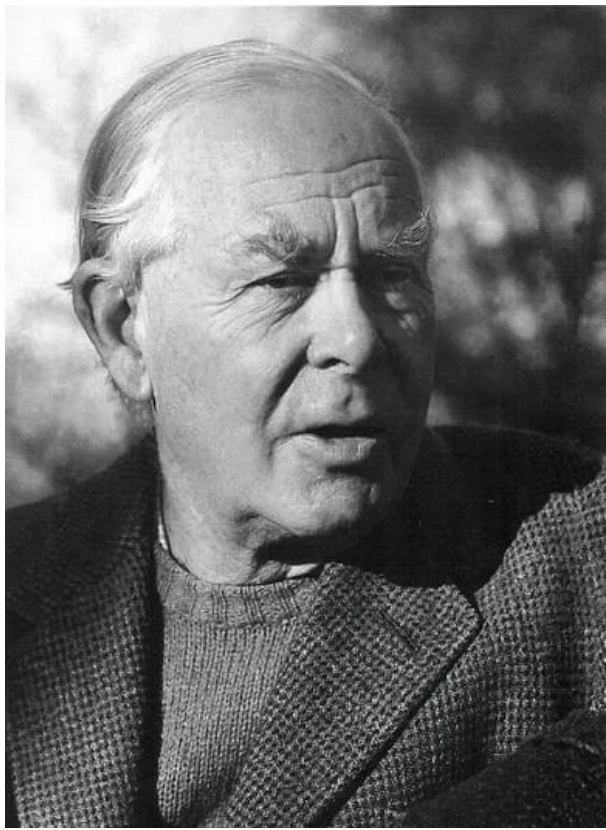
Ella’s behaviour influences how others interact with her. Educators and parents for example.





One of the most significant findings that Urie Bronfenbrenner unearthed in his study of ecological systems is that it is possible for siblings who find themselves in the same ecological system to experience very different environments.

Therefore, given two siblings experiencing the same microsystem, it is not impossible for the development of them to progress in different manners. WHY?

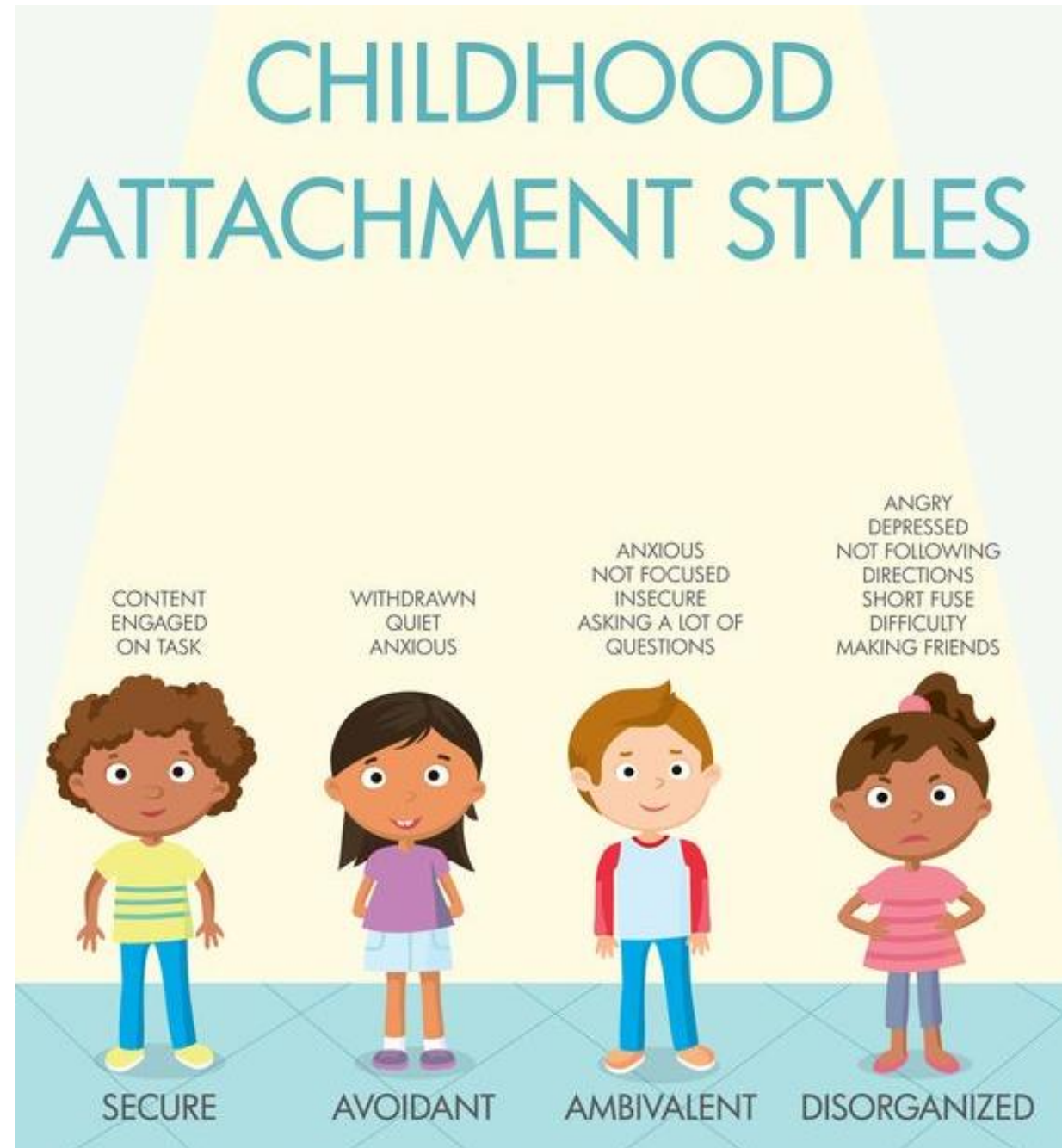


John Bowlby



Mary Ainsworth

Attachment theory is focused on the relationships and bonds between people, particularly long-term relationships, including those between a caregiver and child.



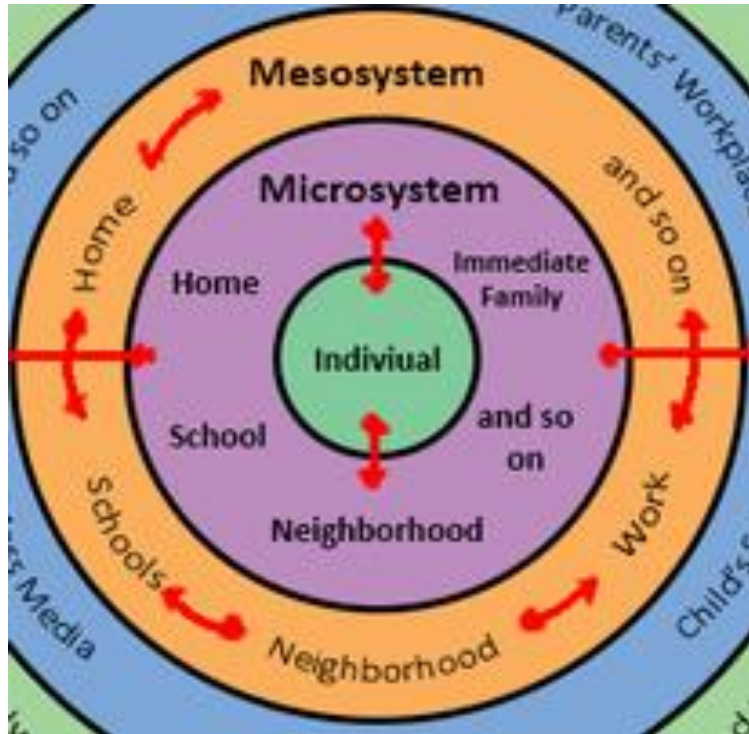


The Attachment Theory: How Childhood Affects Life



Take a little time to
explore Ella's profile and
discuss possible
connections with
attachment theory.

The **mesosystem** refers to the point in which two social **microsystems** merge.

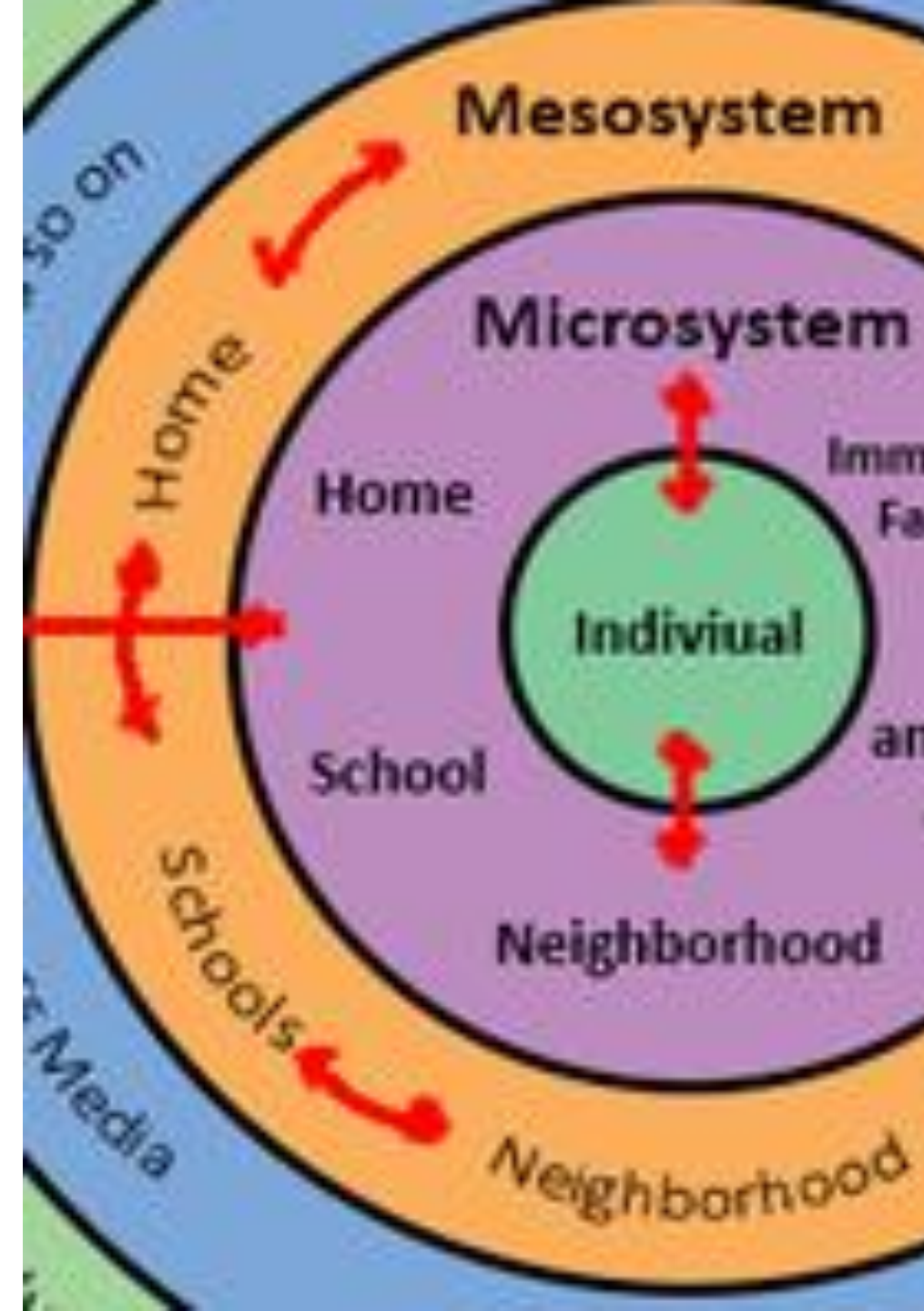


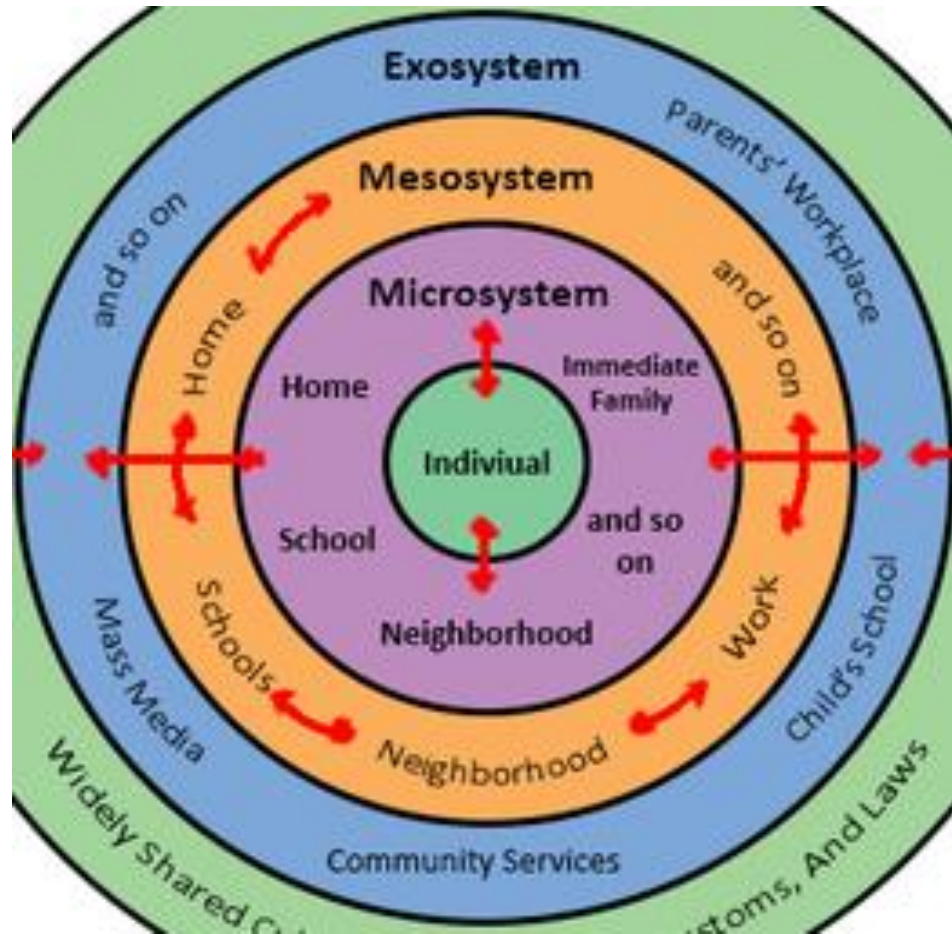
One example of a **mesosystem** is the combination of the home and school environments. These intersect and become a **mesosystem** when events, situations, work and friendships cross back and forth between both environments.



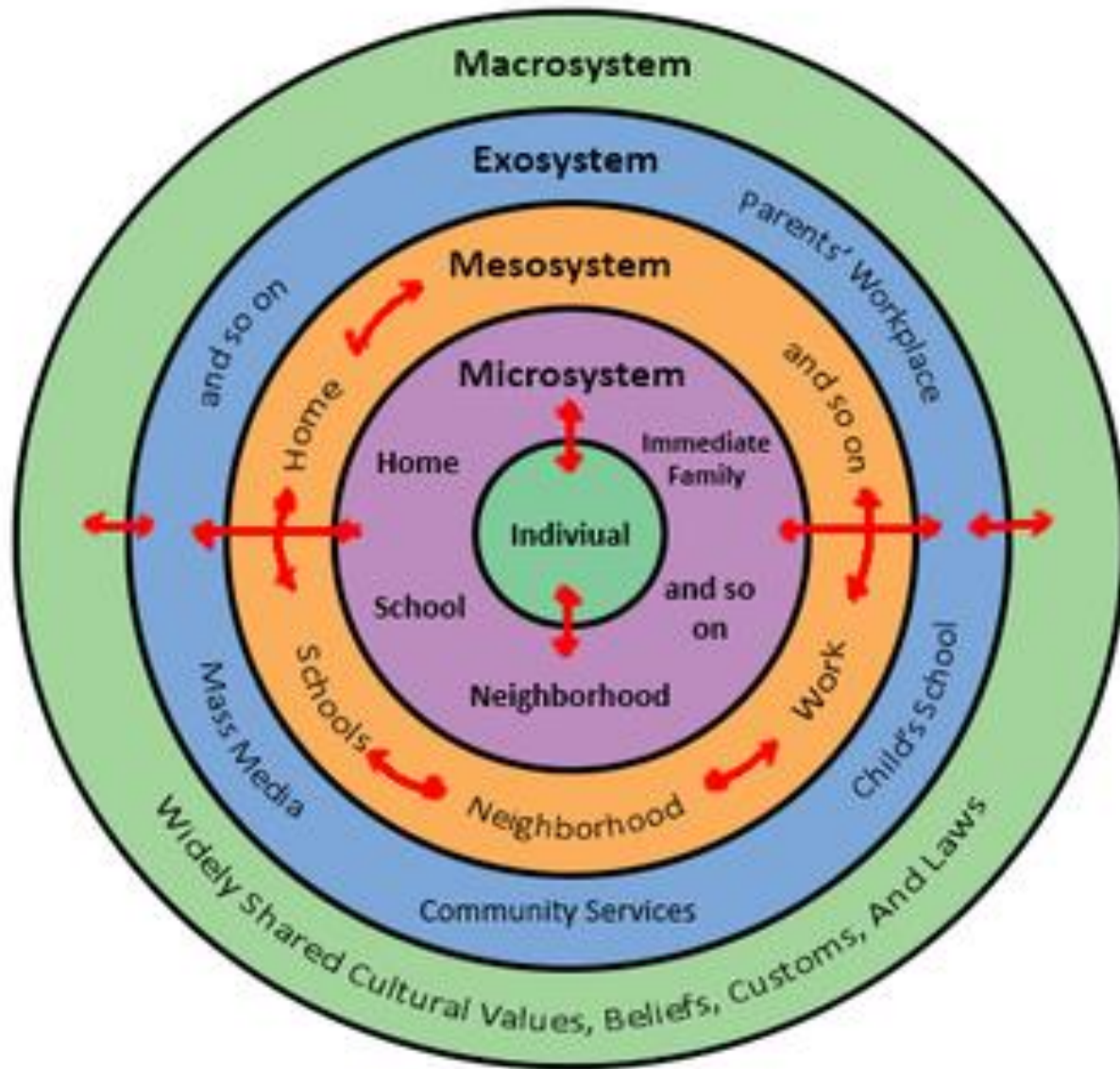
0-3yrs – Deprived areas – ensures early learning

How did your
school interact/
engage with the
local community?





Exosystem: Involves links between **social settings that do not involve the child**. For example, a child's experience at home may be influenced by their parent's experiences at work. A parent might receive a promotion that requires more travel, which in turn increases conflict with the other parent resulting in changes in their patterns of interaction with the child.



The **macrosystem** includes things such as the relative freedoms permitted by the national government, social norms, cultural values, policies, the economy, wars, etc.

These things can also affect a child either positively or negatively.



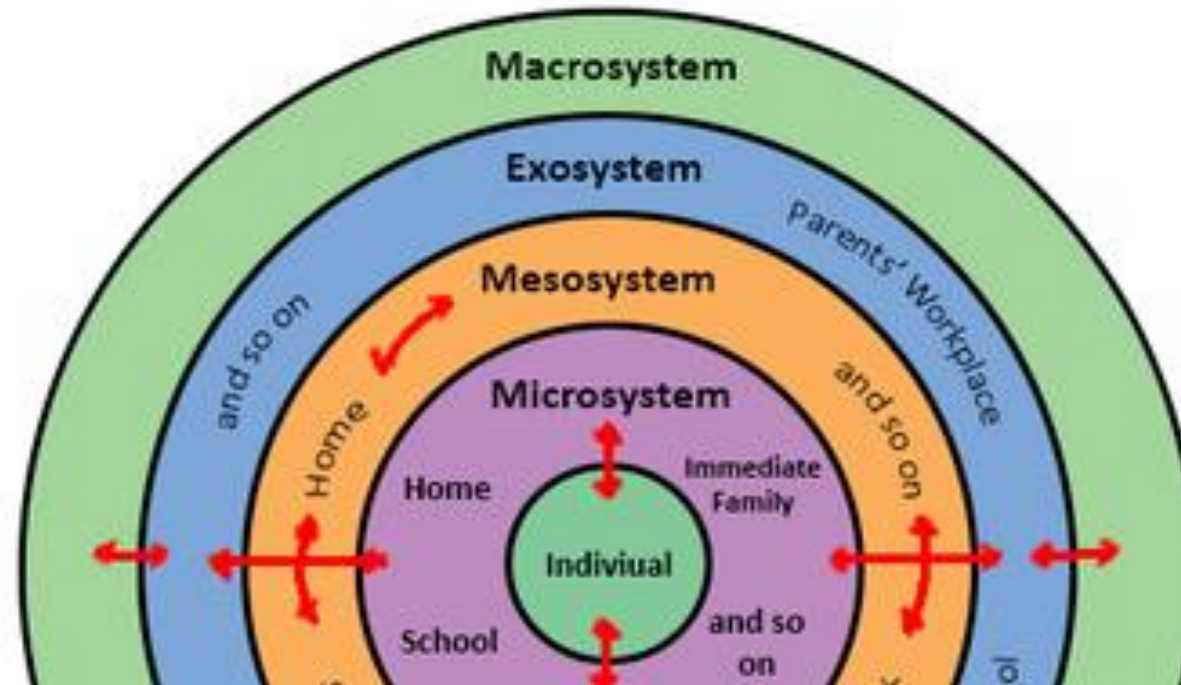
[deddf-llesiant-cenedlaethaur-dyfodol-cymru-2015-hanfodion-2021.pdf](#)



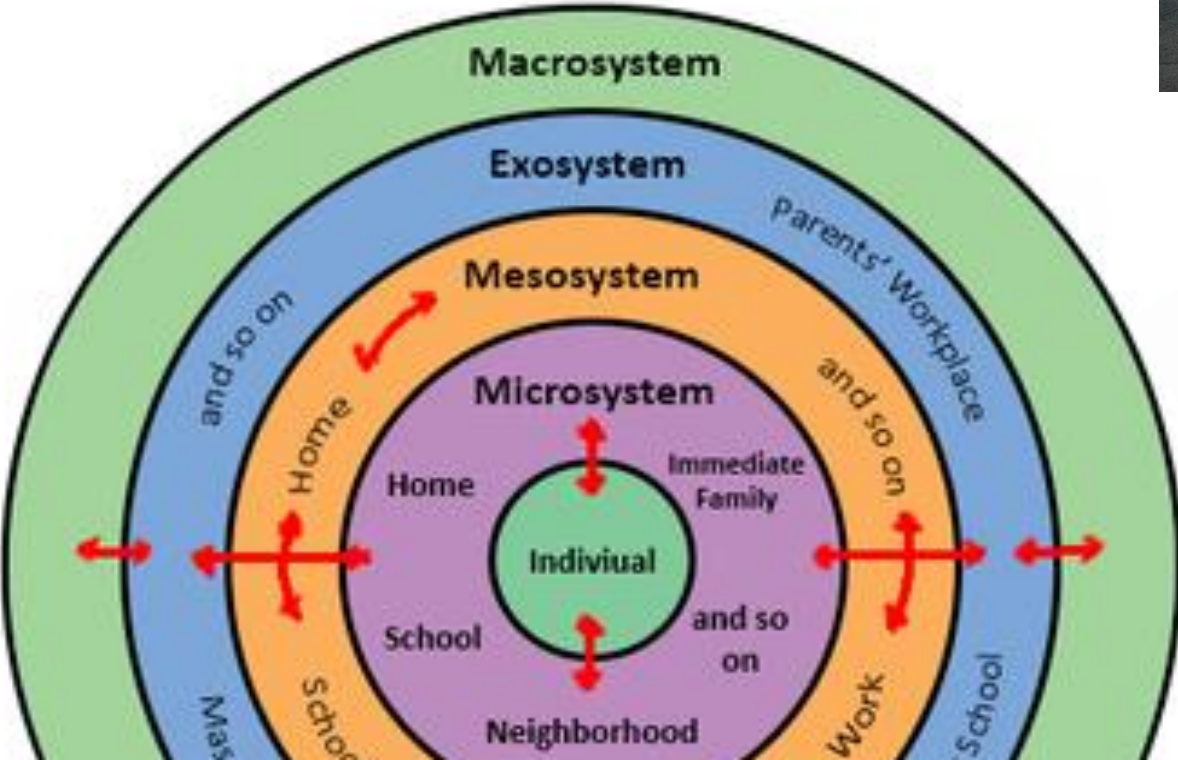
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rFeOYlxJbmw>

Where would you place the child's best friend who is always coming round their house?

Where would you place the introduction of the new Curriculum for Wales?



Take some time to discuss which possible layers where impacted by the Covid 19 pandemic?



Criticism of the
model?

Criticism of the model

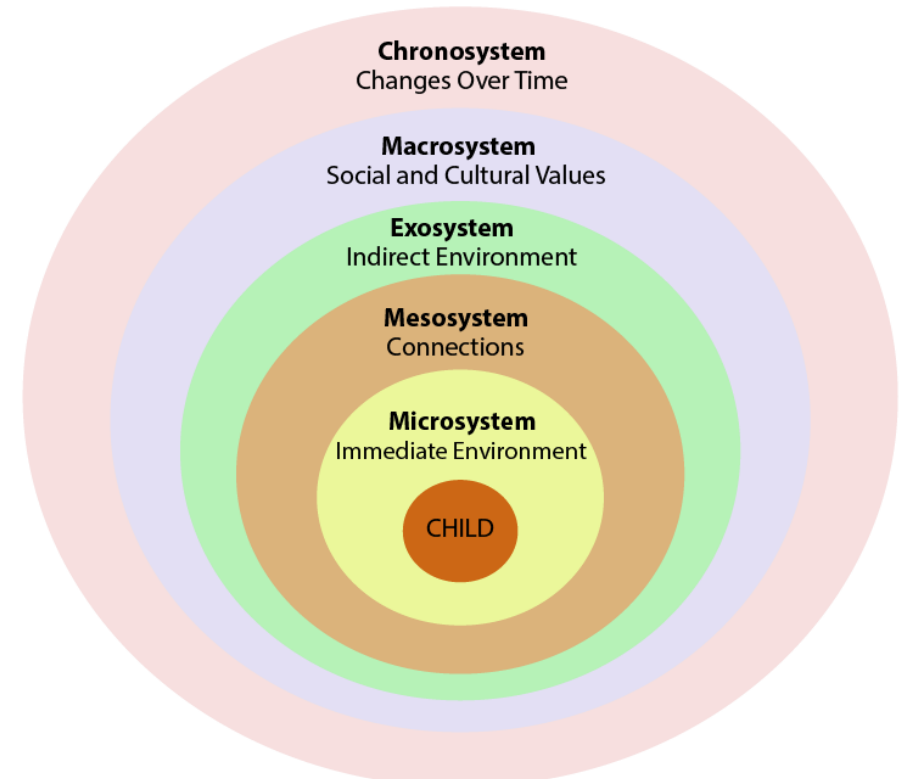
- Some critics considered a **chronosystem** to be a necessary addition. Bronfenbrenner (and Evans) later revised elements of the theory to include time

The timing of a significant event on an individual.

It's not a static system...layers change over time.

The individual also interacts with each layer in different ways and is impacted in different ways as they grow and mature.

Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Systems Theory

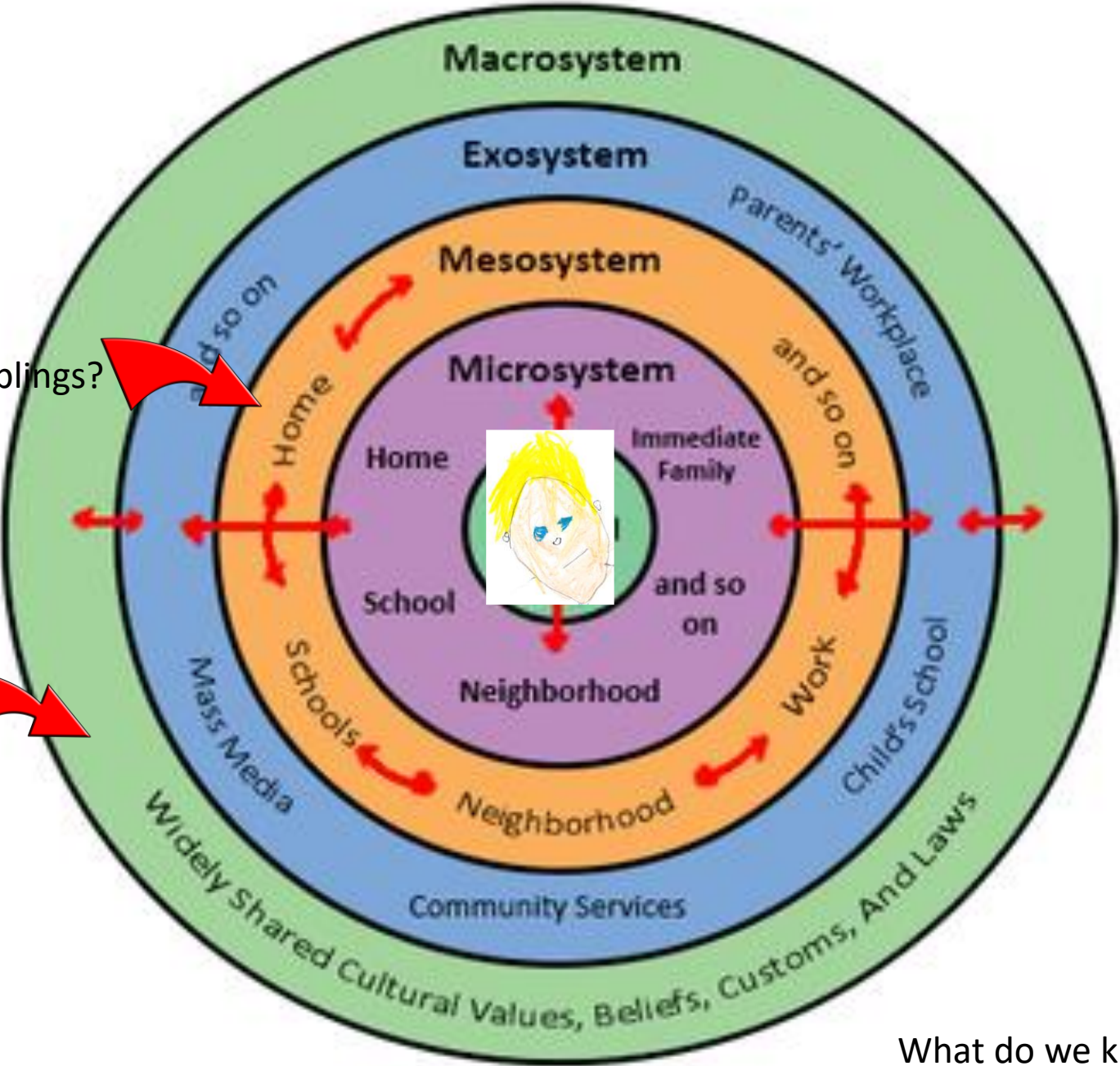


Criticism of the model

Others see the need to include an **ex-macro** layer to account for the way individuals may influence themselves.

Christensen J. (2016)

So what do we know about Ella and the influences on her?

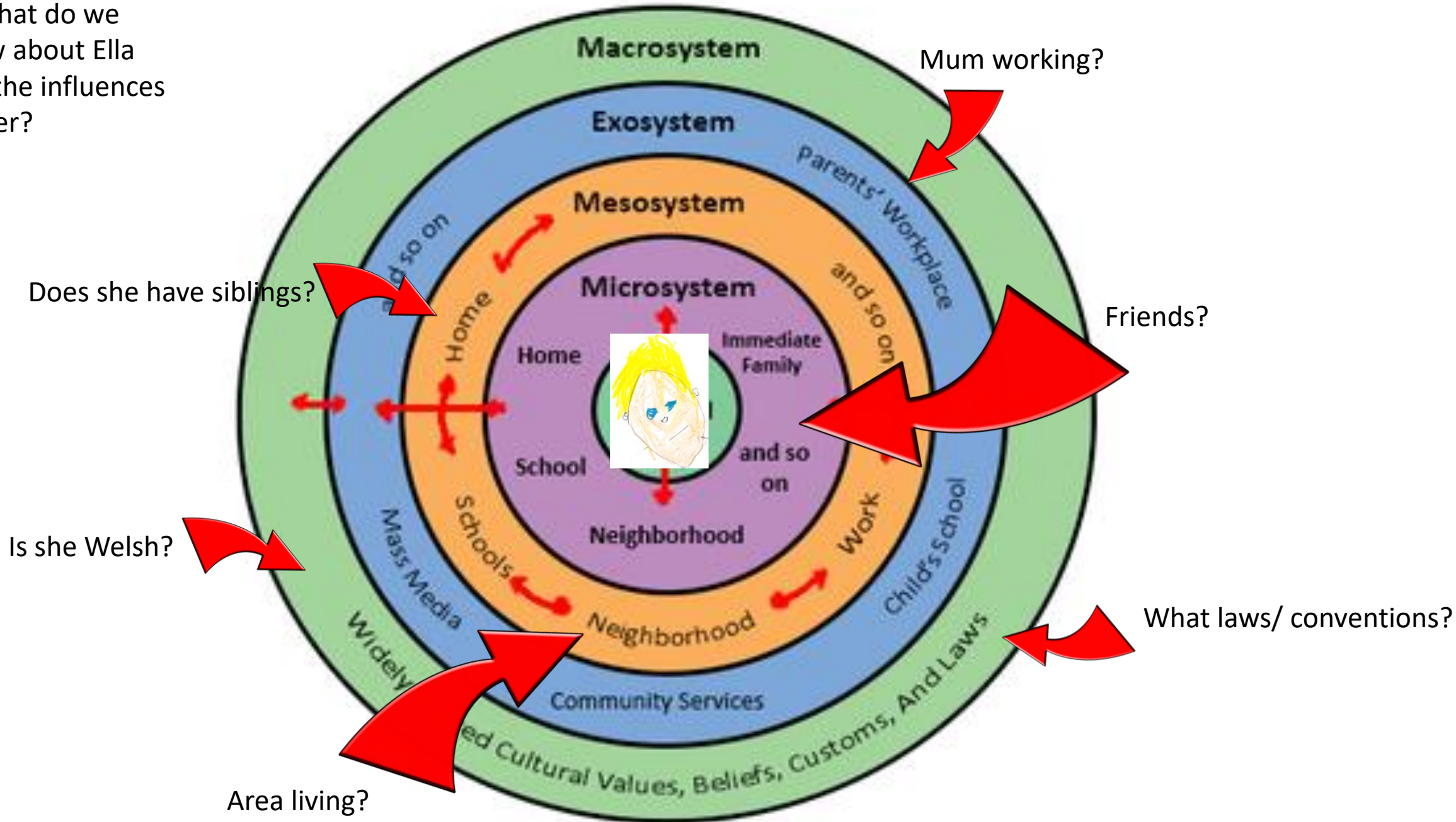


Does she have siblings?

Is she Welsh?

What do we know? What don't we know?

So what do we know about Ella and the influences on her?



ECAD4016

Who am I teaching?



Prifysgol Cymru
Y Drindod Dewi Sant
University of Wales
Trinity Saint David

Yr Athrofa
Institute of Education
Addysg i Gymru Education for Wales

Exploring the influence of the
environment on the individual
learner

www.athrofa.cymru