

## Step 2 Education International Inc. Inclusivity Statement

Birth and breastfeeding are normal functions of the human body, but they also occur in the broader social and cultural context in which people live.

Each person and family you encounter in your work will be determined by a combination of their physiology, their identity and their values, as well as the cultural and social context in which they live and have lived.

The terms and language throughout this course are selected with the intent of providing the greatest clarity and include the broadest spectrum of the human experience. This includes using gender-neutral terms preferentially and selecting examples from a variety of geographic, economic and social circumstances.

Some of these terms will be brand new and others may be different from the usual terms used in your daily work, just as some of the concepts will also be new to you. Language is flexible and evolving; we have aimed to use those terms that reflect the current best practices for clarity, accuracy and inclusion.

Here are some examples:

- “Human milk”, “parent milk” preferable to “breastmilk” or “mother’s milk” when applicable.
- “Parent” in addition to “mother”.
- “They” in addition to “she” or “he”.
- “Breastfeeding” used interchangeably with “chestfeeding” and “nursing” and “human milk feeding”.