

Childcare & Early Years



Guernsey
College
of further
education

Childcare & Early Years

Introduction to the course

This course is aimed at 16 to 19¹ year old full time learners. The Level 2 Certificate enables you to gain knowledge and experience to allow you to progress onto the Technical Level 3 Diploma in Childcare & Education (Early Years Educator) or work as a nursery assistant in the industry. The Level 3 qualification enables you to gain the knowledge and experience to work with children from birth to five years, with knowledge of five to seven year olds

Entry criteria

Level 2: Four GCSEs at grade D/3 or above or equivalent qualification
Level 3: Five GCSEs at grade C/4 or above, one of which must be English language²

Progression opportunities

Upon achieving the qualification at Level 2, you will then be able to progress onto the Technical Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education (EYE) Early Years Educator.

Upon achievement of the Technical Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education (Early Years Educator) it is intended that you will be able to access Higher Education or enter the workforce as early years educators. Types of work settings include day nurseries, pre-schools and crèches. For students with some years of pre-school experience, work as a learning support assistant is possible.

Course outline

The Level 2 qualification has diverse and creative curriculum that offers students a variety of classroom based learning and a mixture of community projects and guest speakers from across the industry to support their knowledge of childcare and development from birth to five years. The course also allows students direct access to industry with a weekly placement day in a variety of childcare settings, and access to modern changes in practice and excellent role models from setting providers.

Units include

- Supporting physical care routines
- An introduction to the role of the early years practitioner
- Understanding how to work in partnership
- Understanding legislation relating to the safeguarding, protection and welfare of children
- Using legislation relating to health and safety of children
- Using legislation relating to equality, diversity and inclusive practice
- Understanding how to plan to meet the needs of the developing child
- Supporting children's play in early years
- Supporting the need of the child in preparing for school
- Supporting children's development
- Using assessment, observation and planning
- Supporting children's positive behaviour
- Engaging in professional development

Level 3 units include:

- Child development
- Health and wellbeing
- Safe environments
- Child health
- Play and learning
- Additional needs
- Observation and assessment
- Emergent literacy
- Emergent mathematics
- Preparing for school readiness
- International perspectives
- Reflective practice
- Professional partnerships
- One professional practice unit over two years which links to placements

Each unit has an assignment and most have some assessment related to practical placement.

Learners must also complete a reflective study and one extended essay (externally set, externally marked).

Two days a week are spent in real work environment placements so that a range of ages and settings are experienced. Staff arrange the placements for you.

The course is graded from D to A*.

Assessment method

Level 2: Written assignments, direct observation, professional discussion and tracking of professional development, plus 250 placement hours.

Level 3: Written assignments for each mandatory unit (including one professional practice portfolio and two externally set and marked assignments), direct observation in the real work environment, plus 750 placement hours.

Course duration

Level 2: One year, full time
Level 3: Two years, full time

Campus

Delancey



* Most universities require five GCSEs at grade C/4 or above, including English and maths, as well as a Level 3 qualification.

Students who successfully complete all elements of their programme at College will be able to progress onto the next level, eg from Access to Level 1, Level 1 to Level 2, and from Level 2 to Level 3.

Additional learning support

As part of your learning programme, if you have not yet attained a grade C/4 or equivalent in mathematics and English language, you will be required to study a Functional Skill or GCSE in these subjects.

Students may require additional support for a number of reasons. At the start of your course you will be asked to complete an initial assessment in order for us to identify any additional needs that you may have. During your course, your personal tutor will be able to guide you on how best to access support.

We can offer the following:

- Progress Coaches
- Learner Support assistance (1:1)
- Learner Support assistance (group)
- Learner Support assistance (drop-ins)
- Specialist ESOL teaching
- Study lab sessions
- In-class support
- Special arrangements for exams

For more details or how to apply, please contact:

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NB: Course information correct at time of print.

Courses offered may be subject to change and will run subject to minimum numbers.

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