

Higher National Diploma in Early Childhood Education and Care



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Introduction to the course

The BTEC Higher National Diploma (HND) in Early Childhood Education and Care is aimed at students wanting to continue their education through applied learning. The HND will provide a wide-ranging study of the early education and care sector and is designed for students who wish to pursue or advance their career in early education and care practice or related fields. In addition to the knowledge, understanding and skills that underpin the study of the early education and care sector, the HND will give students experience of the breadth and depth of the sector that will prepare them for employment, progression within employment or further study.

Entry criteria

- Related work experience
- A BTEC Level 3 Early Years Educator (or related subject) qualification
- GCSE A* to C grades and/or 9 to 4 in English language and maths (or equivalent) are strongly recommended
- A GCE Advanced Level profile that demonstrates strong performance in a relevant subject or adequate performance in more than one GCE Advance Level subject.

Assessment methods

- Pearson BTEC Higher Nationals in Early Childhood Education and Care are assessed using a combination of internally assessed assignments and internally assessed Pearson-set assignments.
- Practice based assessment
- Practical and Reflective Evidence Portfolio (PREP)
- Work placement
- Graded Pass, Merit, Distinction

Course outline

The purpose of Pearson BTEC Higher Nationals in Early Childhood Education and Care are to develop students as professional, self-reflecting individuals able to meet the demands of employers in the early education and care sector and adapt to a constantly changing world. The qualifications aim to widen access to higher education and enhance the career prospects of those who undertake them.



The Higher National Diploma (HND) is a Level 4 and Level 5 qualification made up of 240 credits. 90 credits are completed at Level 4 and 150 credits at Level 5. These are made up of mandatory and optional units.

Mandatory units

- Personal and professional development through reflective practice (Level 4 -15 credits)
- Protecting children in early education and care environments (Level 4 - 15 credits)
- Play and learning in early childhood (Level 4 -15 credits)
- Supporting and promoting children's development (babies and toddlers) (Level 4 -15 credits)
- Supporting and promoting children's development (young children) (Level 4 -15 credits)
- Promoting healthy living (Level 4 -15 credits)
- Preparing for research (Level 4 -15 credits)
- Promoting inclusive early education and care environments (Level 4 -15 credits)

Throughout the programme, students are expected to develop their maths and English language skills within the curriculum to enable them to be more effective in supporting children's progress in maths, language and communication.

Course duration

Part-time over four years:

Two years (Level 4 Higher National Certificate)

Two years (Level 5 Higher National Diploma)

Campus

Les Ozouets

Progression Opportunities

The Level 5 Higher National Diploma allows students to specialise by committing to specific career paths and progression routes to degree-level study and provides graduates with the opportunity to work in many different areas of the early education and care sector.

For more information or how to apply, please contact Julie Jones - juliej@gcfe.net or tel: (01481) 750200 ext. 8897

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NB: Course information is correct at time of print. Courses offered may be subject to change.

The course will run subject to minimum numbers being reached.