

# 3

**Course Code**  
ST0135 v1.3

**Total Apprenticeship Duration**

19 Months

- **On-Programme**  
16 months
- **Assessment Window**  
3 months

**Recommended EPA Organisation**  
Training Qualifications UK



Heart of England Training Ltd



## Apprenticeship Standard EARLY YEARS EDUCATOR LEVEL 3

### Overview

The Early Years Educator can be found in a range of maintained and private, voluntary and independent settings. Their purpose is to provide high quality early education and care to children. Using an evidence-based approach, they provide opportunities and learning experiences for all children, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

Early years educators follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) requirements, as set out by the government for the learning, development and care of children from birth to 5 in both indoor and outdoor environments.

During their work, early years educators interact with children, parents, carers, colleagues and wider multi agency professionals such as health visitors, early help services, social workers and speech and language therapists. This will include supporting children with SEND.

Early years educators are responsible for ensuring a safe and secure environment for children's learning. They ensure that the learning environment and provision is inclusive and supports all children, and demonstrate a clear understanding of equality, diversity and inclusion. They will teach and facilitate children's learning play.

They do this through observation, assessment and planning cycle to support progress and children's development.

An early year's educator will act as the key person for one or more children with their setting. They might also play a leadership role within the setting or may act under the supervision of a manager.

### Occupational Duties

- Support children's learning and development through applying knowledge of pedagogy and the observation, assessment and planning cycle.
- Develop secure and supportive relationships with children and families as the key person for children in their care, advocating for those children.
- Provide respectful and responsive physical and emotional care to children, promoting health and well-being.
- Work with key individuals in children's lives (for example parents, families and carers) to improve all children's outcomes and well-being.
- Work in partnership with other organisations and agencies to support children's learning, development, health and well-being.
- Support the implementation of change to improve practice.
- Initiate and engage in continuous professional development, underpinned by reflective practice.
- Ensure compliance with child protection and safeguarding legislation, policies and procedures.
- Work in ways that promote and support equality, diversity and the inclusion of all children, respecting their social and cultural context.
- Ensure compliance with Health and Safety legislation, policies and procedures.
- Use technology to record and update information for example observations, assessments, reports, risk assessments and safeguarding concerns.
- Promote and engage in children's play. Support all children to create and adapt the environment to reflect their interests and enable their learning and development.
- Ensure legal requirements of statutory frameworks are met within policy, procedure and practice.

### Entry Requirements

Individual employers may set their own entry requirements. The apprentice must already be employed for over 16 hours per week. Candidates must have achieved maths and English at Level 2 prior to their training. Those who have not must achieve this prior to taking the end-point assessment and we will support this.

Maths & English tests must be taken under exam conditions. It is also important to have previous experience within a sports delivery environment

Candidates will be required to hold a first aid qualification in line with the requirements of the EYFS Framework.

## On-programme development & training

Using the **OneFile** online portfolio, apprentices will compile evidence demonstrating their occupational knowledge, skills and behaviours; underpinning the confidence and competence gained in all aspects of the standard. We will support you with one-to-one visits and interactive resources, these will contribute to the candidate's requirement of off-the-job training. HOET will work with the employer and candidate to develop a training and development plan to ensure that the requirements will be met.

As added value apprentices will be offered the chance to complete TQUK Level 3 Diploma for the Childrens workforce (Early Years Educator). Training and assessment for this diploma will be embedded within the one-to-one visits; holistic assessment will ensure that assessment practices reflect the knowledge, skills and behaviours required for the apprenticeship.

Candidates will be supported with mock End-Point Assessments (EPA) professional discussions and knowledge tests. Development feedback will be provided at the end of these mocks to ensure candidates are given the support required to achieve EPA.

## Gateway & EPA

### Gateway

Gateway is the stage where the employer is satisfied that the apprentice is consistently working at or above the level required for EPA. This is a three-way agreement with the candidate, employer and us. Apprentices will need to have achieved a minimum of level 2 English and maths and have completed a first aid qualification in line with the requirements of the EYFS Framework and produced a showcase portfolio.

Once submitted to the EPA Organisation, dates and deadlines for assessments will be agreed, and the assessment window will begin.

### End-point assessment

EPA is completed on the dates agreed; apprentices are required to complete and observation with questions. The observation will be based on the apprentice's day to day duties under normal working conditions. The observation with questioning must take 1 hour 20 minutes and is required to be completed face to face, 50 minutes for the observation and 30 minutes for the questioning. To support the employer the observation with questioning may be split on the same working day.

The second assessment method is a professional discussion underpinned by a portfolio of evidence submitted at Gateway. The portfolio provided should be valid and attributable to the apprentice; the portfolio of evidence will also contain a statement from the employer and apprentice confirming this.

The professional discussion will last for at least 90 minutes and apprentices will have access to their portfolio of evidence. Once complete results will be issued 3 weeks after the final assessment.



INFORMATION



ADVICE & GUIDANCE



RECRUITMENT SUPPORT



INDUCTION



ON-PROGRAMME LEARNING



EPA PREPARATION



EPA



PROGRESSION ROUTES



### Employer & learner satisfaction



of Employers would recommend us\*



of Apprentices would recommend us\*

\* From our 2020-2021 Employer & Apprentice Survey