

EARLY YEARS EDUCATOR LEVEL 3



Blended learning



Course duration

15 months (18 months
with Apprenticeship
Assessment)



EPA Organisation

VTCT



**Training
Time**

25 sessions



Learn for free

Funded via the
Apprenticeship
Levy



Apprenticeship

Level 3

OVERVIEW

Early Years Educators are highly trained professionals who ensure young children learn and develop well. They work in a wide range of settings, including full day care, children's centres, and reception classes, and may also supervise others in delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) requirements for children from birth to five.

Their responsibilities include planning and supervising both child-initiated and adult-led activities, supporting the development of language and numeracy through play, and ensuring each child feels safe and secure. Early Years Educators observe and shape children's learning experiences based on their individual needs while meeting their care requirements.

Working in partnership with colleagues, parents, carers, and other professionals, they play a vital role in creating nurturing environments that support children's holistic development and wellbeing.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Our educators have many years of hands on experience in a childcare setting giving them the knowledge to support you every step of the way.
- As an apprentice you will have a total of 25 educator sessions throughout the duration of your apprenticeship.
- You will see your educator every 3 weeks for a virtual appointment, these appointments provide the opportunity to discuss progress, assign tasks and prepare you for your apprenticeship assessment. These appointments can be done face-to-face if you are located within the Midlands area.

ENTRY REQUIRMENTS

Individual employers may set their own entry requirements. The candidate must already be employed for over 16 hours per week.

- If candidate is 16-18 they must have achieved maths and English at Level 2 prior to completion of the course, this is something that can be completed with us if needed.
- If the candidate is 19+ and they have not completed maths or English prior to enrolling this is up to the employers discretion.
- The candidate must be employed in a suitable role.
- The candidate must hold a English Level 2 functional skill or Level 4 GCSE qualification to complete the course
- Candidates are required to hold a first aid qualification in like with the requirements of the EYFS framework.

TYPICAL JOB ROLES

- Early Years Educator
- Nursery Practitioner
- Preschool Practitioner
- Early Years Officer
- Reception Class Assistant
- Childcare Practitioner
- Playgroup Supervisor

COURSE CONTENT

Safeguarding & Wellbeing

Follow safeguarding and child protection policies, manage risks and hazards, prevent infection, and support children's health, safety, and wellbeing.

Child Development & Learning

Understand attachment, holistic development, and expected progress from birth to age 5, with awareness of development up to age 7. Support transitions and use phonics, literacy, and numeracy strategies to strengthen learning.

Curriculum & Planning

Apply Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) requirements to plan, lead, and adapt activities, purposeful play, and educational programmes that reflect individual needs and stages of development.

Assessment & Progress

Use formative and summative assessment to track progress, plan next steps, and shape learning opportunities to support achievement.

Collaboration & Communication

Work with colleagues, parents, carers, and other professionals to plan enabling environments, share information effectively, and communicate with children in ways they understand.

Professional Values & Practice

Demonstrate care, compassion, honesty, trust, and integrity, with a strong work ethic, commitment, teamwork, and inclusive practice. Engage in continuous professional development to maintain high standards.

EMPLOYER & LEARNER SATISFACTION

97%

of Apprentices would recommend us*

99%

of Employers would recommend us*

* From our Employer & Apprentice Survey

APPRENTICESHIP ASSESSMENT

The Apprenticeship Assessment includes:

- A 90 minute professional discussion supported by a portfolio of evidence.
- A 80 minutes observation of practice and questioning

YOUR COMPLETE CAREER PATHWAY

Early Years Practitioner
Level 2



Early Years Educator
Level 3



Early Years Lead Practitioner
Level 5

“THE TRAINING COURSES PROVIDED HAVE BEEN REALLY USEFUL AND ALLOWED ME TO PROVIDE THE BEST CARE TO CHILDREN IN MY SETTING. MY EDUCATOR HAS BEEN THERE FOR ME EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.”

