Working together to transform lives

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Early Years Workforce (Early Years Educator)



Subject Area	Early Years & Childcare
Course Type	Adult (19+)
Study Level	Level 3
Delivery Mode	Part-time
Duration	2 Academic Years
Start Date	October 2026 (+ more)
Course Code	PA000832

View on **bradfordcollege.ac.uk**

Course Summary

This course will prepare you to become an Early Years Educator, enabling you to work with children from birth to 5 years and gain knowledge of children aged 5 to 7 years. This vocational route is ideal for mature learners who have some experience, either volunteering or working in early years, or may have their own children or some life experience. The course is open to learners aged 19-23, and 24+ and is offered as a part-time vocational route to Early Years Educator. You will need to attend College once a week (on a Monday) (in term-time) from 09.15-14.45 and will also be expected to complete independent study and assignment tasks in your own time. You will be supported to achieve your practical competencies in placement with workshop sessions when you attend College each week, which will be with your assessor. She will also visit you in your placement setting to observe your practice and assess competency.

The minimum requirement for placement is 300-350 hours across the course. We recommend two full days per week, however if you are working/volunteering you may be able to do more days/structure your time differently.

What You Will Learn

This qualification prepares learners to become Early Years Educators, enabling them to work with children from birth to 5 years and gain knowledge of children aged 5 to 7 years. Upon achievement of this qualification learners will be able to enter the workforce as Early Years Educators or access Higher Education.

Modules

There are 10 units:

- The role of the Early Years Educator
- Holistic child development
- Play & learning
- Effective communication
- Early Years curriculum,
- Assessment
- Partnerships
- Safeguarding
- Health, Safety & well being
- Special Educational Needs & Disability.

Entry Requirements

To start the Early Years Educator qualification, you will need GCSE Grade C/4 or above in English Language or Functional Skills Level 2 in English. Ideally you would have achieved the same qualifications/grades in Mathematics although you could work towards your Maths qualifications whilst also studying your Early Years qualification.

Work Experience

A minimum of 300-350 placement hours is required. During your placement, you will need support from a professional within the real work environment who will act as a mentor.

Placement/workplace hours must be completed in an Ofsted registered Early Years setting within the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) with babies/children aged 0-5. Ideally you would gain experience across the different age ranges within the EYFS. Which you will need to source yourself unless already in employment in an early years setting.

Bradford College will also carry out Disclosure and barring Service (DBS) checks if you do not already have one for the setting in which you will be volunteering or have a portable DBS on the update service. You must secure your own volunteering/placement position

Progression

Upon achievement of this qualification, you will be able to enter the workforce as an Early Years Educator at Level 3 to be included in the ratios. Please note English GCSE or equivalent is also required to count in ratios.

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