

COURSE INFORMATION



University
Centre
Somerset

Part of Bridgwater & Taunton College

Foundation Degree Early Childhood Studies

Subject:	Early Childhood Studies
Type:	HNC Level 5
Course Code:	APH314T/HM1
Attendance:	Full Time
Location:	Taunton
Awarding body:	The Open University

Description

Whether experienced in the early years sector or not, if you are committed to making a difference to the lives of children, young people and families, this Foundation Degree in Early Childhood Studies is the perfect underpinning for your career. Extensive research has been conducted throughout the development of this programme through the engagement of early years' employers, head teachers, parents, children, early years and primary school practitioners and recent and past graduates.

There are two pathways for this course: a Practitioner Pathway and a Non-Practitioner Pathway. Your choice will be dictated by whether you are already working within an early years setting and whether you already possess a vocationally related qualification. In Year 2 you will be assessed against the National Occupational Standards, culminating in the achievement of a Level 3 Diploma for the Early Years Practitioner or Level 3 Diploma in Specialist Support for Teaching and Learning in Schools. For practitioners you will have the opportunity to develop your skills with CPD units from the Diploma.

The exciting development for this new programme offers opportunities for qualified, experienced practitioners and inexperienced applicants, to develop their knowledge and skills.

The modules studied over the two years will include:

- The Reflective Practitioner
- The Child in Society
- Language and Literacy Development
- Introduction to Leadership and Management
- Child Health and Wellbeing
- Working with Children and Families

For more information about regulations and policies relevant to studying with the Open University please visit our Wider Information Set page.

Read the course handbook here

Regulations for validated awards of The Open University and the Appendices can be found here.

Teaching and Assessment

There are no exams on this programme, each module is assessed by means of assignments – reflective essay, learning and development resources, and presentations. Teaching sessions take the form of short lectures, supervised discussions, small group work and guest speakers.

Career Progression

This Foundation Degree will open up a variety of career paths and can lead to employment in family support and projects working in a range of early years settings – children's centre worker, home/school liaison officer, early years practitioner or a role within a primary school.

Entry Requirements

To commence the Foundation Degree candidates must have GCSE English grade A*-C; IELTS Level 6 or above for students whose first language is not English), Mathematics grade A*-C (or Maths functional skills at Level 2) and at least one of the following:

- 64 UCAS points at AS/A2 Level (minimum 32 points at A2 Level)
- BTEC Qualifications (QCF) MPP (Extended), MM (Diploma), DM (90 Credit Diploma)
- Access to HE course in a relevant subject area
- Or equivalent

The nature of study at this level requires GCSE grade A*-C (new grade system 9-4) in English and Maths or equivalent qualification. Under exceptional circumstances, a conditional offer may be made to a prospective learner to include an expectation of working towards GCSE Maths grade C or Level 2 Numeracy alongside completing the degree programme.

You will be required to undergo a Disclosure and Barring Service check (formerly known as CRB) prior to commencing any placement work.

Costs

£8200