Early Years

Career progression map

Why consider entering Early Years as a career?

Study at Higher Education in disciplines such as:
• Early Years Teaching
• Youthwork
• Playwork
• Social work
• Early Childhood Studies.
*Entry to pathway from A Level/AG and other Technical routes

Option for specialist roles, for example:
• Special Education Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO)
• Safeguarding
• Special Education Needs and Disability Lead (SEND)
• Physical Activity and Nutrition Co-ordinator (PANCO)
• Literacy or Maths Leader.
Other specialist roles may include pedagogical approaches.

Residential Childcare Worker (Level 3)

Support role in schools

Early Years Practitioner (Level 2) employed in a range of settings and service provision.

Early Years Practitioner (Level 3) (Early Years Educator) employed in a range of settings and service provision with children

Homebased Provision:
• Childminder
• Nanny

Residential Childcare Worker (Level 3)

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Option for specialist roles, for example:
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Manager

• Graduate practitioner
• Early Years Senior Practitioner
• Teaching Apprenticeships

Deputy Manager

Manager

Manager

Local Authority quality role / regulatory role

Professional Training in Education, Social Care and Health

• Assessor
• Tutor
• Lecturer
• Early Years Leader in schools/colleges/university

This Childcare and Early Years careers progression map has been designed by Early Years experts and stakeholders and supported by the Department for Education (DfE). The DfE wish to express their thanks to everyone who has been involved. It is intended for use by the Childcare and Early Years sector, careers advisers and anyone who is considering a career in the sector.

To check that the qualification you are interested in is approved by the Department for Education visit www.gov.uk/guidance
To find out more about being an Apprentice visit www.getingofar.gov.uk