



Excelon
Learning

Qualification

Level 3 Extended Diploma for Working in the Early Years Sector (Early Years Educator) (610/6133/5)

NCFE





Course Description

The **Level 3 Extended Diploma for Working in the Early Years Sector (Early Years Educator)** is designed to prepare learners with the knowledge, skills, and understanding required to work in early years settings with children from birth to five years, while also gaining knowledge of children aged five to seven years. The qualification supports learners to develop professional competence in promoting children's learning, development, safeguarding, wellbeing, and inclusive practice within early years environments.

This qualification meets the Department for Education (DfE) Early Years Educator criteria in full and maps to the knowledge, skills, and behaviours required within the Early Years Educator occupational standard in England. It is suitable for learners wishing to progress into employment within early years settings or continue into higher education and advanced childcare studies.

Course Structure

The **Level 3 Extended Diploma for Working in the Early Years Sector (Early Years Educator)** consists of **16 mandatory units**:

**UNIT
01**

**Introduction to the
Role of the Early
Years Educator**

**UNIT
02**

**Holistic Child
Development**

**UNIT
03**

**Children with
Special Educational
Needs and
Disabilities (SEND)**

**UNIT
04**

**Effective
Communication in
an Early Years
Setting**

**UNIT
05**

**Safeguarding and
Welfare
Requirements**

**UNIT
06**

**Health, Wellbeing
and Safety**

**UNIT
07**

**Promoting an
Effective Early
Years Curriculum**

**UNIT
08**

**Assessment of
Children's Learning
and Development**

**UNIT
09**

**Understanding
Play for Learning
and Holistic
Development**

**UNIT
10**

**Partnership
Working**

**UNIT
11**

**Reflection and
Supervision in an
Early Years Setting**

**UNIT
12**

**Learner-Led
Enquiry in an Early
Years Setting**



UNIT
13

Sustainable Practice
in an Early Years
Setting

UNIT
14

Neuroscience for
Early Years
Practice

UNIT
15

Understand the Role
of the Early Years
Educator as an
Advocate for Children
with SEND

UNIT
16

Enabling Play
Environments in
an Early Years
Setting

How We Support You – Our Support and Delivery Model

Our courses are designed to be accessible, supportive, and suitable for learners at all levels. All learning materials are written in clear, straightforward language to help learners build understanding and confidence.

Courses are delivered entirely through **self-paced distance learning** via our online platform, enabling learners to study flexibly alongside work, education, or personal commitments.

Learners have continuous access to tutor support throughout their course. Tutors can be contacted via the VLE or email, with responses typically provided within 24 to 48 hours.

Additional **on-demand support sessions** may be arranged where required. Regular **live webinars** are also offered, subject to tutor availability, providing opportunities for engagement, questions, and reinforcement of learning.

Assessment Process

Assessment is completed through:

Written assignments

Workplace observations

There are **no formal examinations**. Assessment focuses on demonstrating understanding, awareness, and the ability to apply knowledge appropriately.

Course Duration

The course offers **1154 Guided Learning Hours (GLH)** and is delivered through flexible, self-paced learning. It can typically be completed within approximately **11-24 months**, depending on the learner's own pace. Course access expires after one year, and a re-enrolment charge is applicable.



Our Process

01.

Choose & Pay for Your Course Online

Select your desired course and payment method online. Opt for either full payment or convenient monthly instalments where available. Complete your payment after filling out the application form.

02.

Fill Out the Enrolment Form

After payment, you will be prompted to complete the enrolment form. This form gathers all necessary details required for your registration with the awarding organisation.

03.

Access the VLE – Moodle

Start your course on our user-friendly Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). Here, you will find all learning materials, resources, and guidance required to support your studies. Your dedicated tutor will guide you through the process and provide feedback throughout your learning journey.

04.

Submit Assignments & Receive Feedback

Engage in the learning process by submitting assignments through the VLE. Your assigned tutor will provide constructive feedback to help you refine your work and make progress in your studies.

05.

Successfully Complete Assignments

Work diligently to complete all required course components and assessment tasks. Your commitment and effort will contribute to successful course completion.

06.

Obtain Your Accredited Certificate

Upon successfully completing the course, your work will undergo internal quality assurance and external verification. Once approved, you will receive an Ofqual-regulated accredited certificate recognising your achievement.



Course Brochure Takeaways

A nationally
recognised Level 3
Early Years
Educator
qualification

Meets
Department
for Education
(DfE) Early Years
Educator
criteria

Includes
mandatory work
placement
experience

Flexible blended
and self-paced
learning

Develops
professional
childcare and early
years practice
skills

Supports
progression into
employment and
higher
education

Enables
learners
to work within
staff-to-child
ratios in
early years
settings

Level 3 Extended Diploma for Working in the Early Years Sector (Early Years Educator)

Apply Now