

NCFE

CACHE



Purpose statement

**NCFE CACHE Level 3 Certificate in Preparing to
Work in Early Years Education and Care
QN: 601/3955/9**

Purpose Statement

What does this qualification cover?

This qualification provides you with a broad foundation of the knowledge and skills required to provide care for children in a range of early years job roles that do not require Early Years Educator status, as well as preparing you to work towards achieving a qualification that would allow you to work as an Early Years Educator in the future.

You will need to complete 12 mandatory units to achieve this qualification, which are:

- Support healthy lifestyles for children through the provision of food and nutrition
- Support healthy lifestyles for children through exercise
- Support physical care routines for children
- Promote children's emotional well-being
- Understand how to support children who are unwell
- Understand the needs of the mother and baby during pre-conception, pregnancy and the first year of life
- An introduction to the role of the early years practitioner
- Understand legislation relating to the safeguarding, protection and welfare of children
- Use legislation relating to the health and safety of children
- Use legislation relating to equality, diversity and inclusive practice
- Work in partnership
- Reflecting on practice in the early years sector

Completion of this qualification is achieved through a combination of classroom- based learning and experience in the workplace.

All the units within this qualification are vocationally based, directly helping you gain the knowledge, understanding and skills required to work in supervised roles in a range of early years settings.

There are no formal entry requirements for this qualification but you will need to be at least 16 years of age.

This qualification will take approximately 12 months to complete.

What knowledge and skills will this qualification give you?

Completion of this qualification will equip you with the essential knowledge and skills required to work within an early years setting that does not require Early Years Educator status, for example nursery assistant or pre-school assistant.

Is this qualification right for you?

This qualification is a good choice if you are currently working in an Early Years setting; it is achievable for those already in employment without requiring as much time out of the workplace as other early years qualifications at level 3. To enter the early years workforce at level 3 you will need to achieve Early Years Educator status and GCSEs at grade C or above in English and maths. If needed, studying for the Certificate will give you time to gain your GCSEs before progressing to the Diploma.

This qualification is ideal if you have achieved the NCFE CACHE Level 2 Certificate in an Introduction to Early Years Education and Care, as you will have already completed a proportion of the qualification's content which you will not have to repeat.

You will need to be working, volunteering or on practical placement as you will need to show competence in both knowledge and skills. It is an important part of the assessment process as it involves evaluating skills in real working situations.

Why should you take this particular qualification?

You should take this qualification if you want to work in a supervised capacity in job roles where you will work directly with children from birth to 5 years. It also allows you to gain knowledge of children aged 5 to 7 years. It is ideal if you are already in employment as it does not require as much time out of the workplace as other early years qualifications at level 3. It will prepare you to work towards achieving a qualification that would allow you to work as an Early Years Educator in the future and could lead to employment in a range of job roles in early years settings that do not require Early Years Educator status, such as nursery assistant or pre-school assistant. To enter the early years workforce at level 3 you will need to achieve Early Years Educator status and GCSEs at grade C or above in English and maths. If needed, studying for the Certificate will give you time to gain your GCSEs before progressing to the Diploma.

There are five qualifications at the same level and one at level 2:

- **NCFE CACHE Level 2 Certificate in an Introduction to Early Years Education and Care**

This qualification is an excellent choice if you are thinking of progressing to a Level 3 qualification in Early Years or Children and Young People. To enter the early years workforce at level 3 you will need to achieve Early Years Educator status and GCSEs at grade C or above in English and maths; this qualification will allow you time to study for your GCSEs whilst also progressing to a Level 3 Early Years Educator qualification. On completion of the Level 2 Certificate in an Introduction to Early Years Education and Care you will be able to enter the workforce at level 2 in a supervised capacity.

- **NCFE CACHE Level 3 Award in Childcare & Education**

The Level 3 Award in Childcare and Education prepares learners to progress to the Level 3 Certificate in Childcare and Education and then on to the NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education (Early Years Educator). It is suitable for learners who wish to progress to higher education but are taking other larger qualifications as part of a wider programme of study.

- **NCFE CACHE Level 3 Certificate in Childcare & Education**

The Level 3 Certificate in Childcare and Education prepares learners to progress to the NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education (Early Years Educator). It is also suitable for learners who wish to progress to higher education but are taking other qualifications as part of a wider programme of study.

- **NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Childcare & Education (Early Years Educator)**

The Diploma is intended for those who wish to enter the workforce as Early Years Educators or access higher education.

- **NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Early Years Education and Care (Early Years Educator)**

This qualification is intended for those who wish to enter the workforce as Early Years Educators or access higher education.

- **NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma for the Early Years Workforce (Early Years Educator)**

This qualification enables learners to enter the workforce as Early Years Educators. It is also part of the Interim Advanced Apprenticeship for the Children & Young People's Workforce.

The Level 3 Certificate in Preparing to Work in Early Years Education & Care qualification is not available as part of an Apprenticeship Framework.

What could this qualification lead to?

This qualification could lead to employment in a range of job roles in early years settings that do not require Early Years Educator status, such as nursery assistant or pre-school assistant, as well as preparing employees to work towards achieving a qualification that would allow them to work as an Early Years Educator in the future.

If you are looking to continue studying after completion of this qualification, completion of the NCFE CACHE Level 3 Certificate in Preparing to Work in Early Years Education & Care provides you with the knowledge and skills to progress to NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Early Years Education and Care (Early Years Educator).

Who supports this qualification?

The NCFE CACHE Level 3 Certificate in Preparing to Work in Early Years Education & Care is supported by the following Professional Body:

- Pre-school Learning Alliance

It is also supported by the following employers:

- PACEY
- Children 1st
- Acorns Nursery
- Little Owls Pre-school and Nursery
- Old London Road Pre-school