Early Years Education
PG Certificate
Award Bearing Programme

This programme is designed for graduates currently practising in Nursery or P1-3 settings. The programme has a strong focus on transformative professionalism. This form of professionalism is characterised by the collaborative development of practice and making evidence-informed contributions to professional debate.

The PG Certificate in Early Years Education aims to promote:

- enhanced and extended professionalism
- professional and academic excellence
- professional action for change and development
- engagement with research and communities of enquiry
- critical reflection on policy and practice
- professional discussion and debate.

Postgraduate Certificate in Early Years Education (60 SM Points)

The programme comprises two courses which cover four main themes:

- Child development and learning
- The child in the socio-cultural context
- Educational approaches and issues: shaping change in practice settings
- Exploring issues and applications in practice through personal research and enquiry
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Course 1: Enhanced Practice in Early Years Education (30 SM Points)
This course will allow students to engage with the theory and practice of working with children in a range of settings, 0-3, 3-5 and 5-8, but with a particular focus on the role of the teacher in the setting in which they work. Students will explore a number of contemporary educational issues and approaches in Early Years Education.

Course 2: Wider Perspectives for Enhanced Practice in Early Years Education (30 SM Points)
This course will allow students to engage with the theory and practice of the professional role as above, but with a particular focus on the two other settings in the age range (0-3, 3-5, 5-8) in which they are not normally employed and will thus complement the above course.

Course content is based on the themes and priorities detailed above and will support the Early Years Framework (2008) through the development of specialist Early Years provision which will help to build the resilience of children, improve the capacity of parents and contribute towards developing supportive communities.

How will the programme be delivered?
This programme will be delivered mainly by online, distance learning.

There will be 2 x 1/2 day induction sessions at the start of each course where active participation is expected. Students will be actively encouraged to work collaboratively, in small cohorts, with other students on the same unit.

What will I be expected to do to successfully complete the course?
Participants will carry out practice-based work within their own setting and also within two other settings of the 0-3, 3-5 and 5-8 age ranges. Work will be underpinned by reference to reading and research.

What are the requirements for entry?
Prospective PGC Early Years candidates will be required to evidence characteristics consistent with the following:

• Fully qualified primary teacher or BA Childhood Practice graduate
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- Employment in a relevant setting for a minimum of 12.5 hours per week
- Have the ability to engage with online learning and have effective word-processing, email and web search skills

Course Fees
Fees are reviewed annually. Up-to-date fee information can be found at:
http://www.abdn.ac.uk/infohub/finance/fee-rates.php

Dates and Delivery
The programme will run over one academic year by e-learning, through part-time study

For further details about this programme please contact:
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For information about other postgraduate opportunities within the School of Education, please visit
www.abdn.ac.uk/education