

## Course introduction

The BTEC Extended Diploma Level 3 is a full time course comprising of 2 days professional practice per week spent in Pre School Groups, Nurseries, Infant Schools and Special Needs placements where you will develop practical skills alongside 3 days full time study in college. The course concentrates on the care, education and development of babies and young children aged 0-8 years.

Practical Training will consist of over 750 hours over the 2 years in 3 different placements;

- 0 – 2 years in nursery or home based care
- 2 – 4 years in nursery, pre-school or home based care
- 4 – 8 years within a classroom setting

Some of your training can be with 'Children with additional needs'. Professional Practice is organised by Mrs. Jenkin and students are visited at least twice at each placement where they are observed and assessed.



## Entrance requirements

Students must have acquired a minimum of five GCSE's or equivalent at 4-9 including English Language and Maths. They must also have the qualities necessary to work with children.

## How the course is assessed

Assessment in Year 12/13

### Unit 1 - Children's Development

Exam Unit (under exam conditions)

### Unit 2 - Communications, Literacy and Numeracy

Exam Unit (under exam conditions)

### Unit 3 - Enquiries into Current Research in Early Years Practice

Externally set Edexcel assignments carried out in controlled conditions over a set period of time.

All other units are internally assessed and graded Pass, Merit or Distinction throughout the course.

There is a possibility to obtain a 'First Aid Certificate' during the 2 year course.

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## How the course is taught

This is a BTEC course which is 'Vocational Led'. The units are taught using experience and knowledge from the Child Care Sector and students use their experience from Professional practice in their assignment work.

**There is a lot of coursework!**

## Areas covered by the course

There are 11 Mandatory Units covering for example:

- Children's Development
- Communication, Literacy and Numeracy Skills
- Keeping Children Safe
- Observation, Assessment and Planning

There are 3 External Units:

The Specialist Units may include:

- Healthy Eating in the Early Years
- Children's Imaginative Play and Creativity
- Working with Children who have additional needs

## Career opportunities

Employment in a variety of settings including private nurseries, nursery units, schools, hospitals, clinics and crèches. The BTEC National Diploma also provides a route to a variety of higher education opportunities e.g. Early Years Education and Nursery and Primary Teaching. Please note - for those students who do wish to progress into the teaching profession, they will need to have gained GCSE 4-9 grade in English Language, Science and Maths.

