



## Purpose Statement

<b>Name of regulated qualification</b>	
<b>QAN: 603/0509/5</b>	<b>Title: Pearson BTEC Level 2 Technical Diploma in Children's Play, Learning and Development (Early Years Assistant) (360 GLH)</b>

### What is the early years sector?

The early years sector in England is made up of over 80,000 settings, with 1.3 million childcare places for children under five. This ranges from childminders and nannies to nurseries, crèches and preschools. The early years focuses specifically on the learning, development and care of children from birth to five years.

The early years sector offers a range of progression through further study – for example, early years educator and teaching roles, management, special needs, social work and play work.

### Who is this qualification for?

This qualification is for you if you want to start a career in early years education and care. It is designed for post-16 students and can be taken as part of a wider study programme. It is an ideal qualification if you are intending to progress directly to employment within the early years sector, or to an early years apprenticeship.

### What does the qualification cover?

This qualification has been developed in consultation with employers within the early years sector to ensure you learn the skills and behaviours that will give you the best opportunity to be successful when applying for work.

All the content of the qualification is mandatory and relates directly to the skills, knowledge and behaviours expected by employers in the early years sector. The areas you will cover include:

- child development
- working in early years settings
- caring for children
- supporting children's learning through play.

You will also enhance your broader skills in literacy and numeracy, which will be invaluable in supporting your progression. In addition, you will develop transferable technical and practical

skills in communication, professional behaviours in the workplace, reflective practice, and preparing for interviews to secure employment or an apprenticeship.

As part of your course, you will be required to engage with sector employers, where opportunities will be given for you to develop practical skills in preparation for employment. For this qualification, you will be required to take a work placement of 280 hours in an early years setting.

### **What could this qualification lead to?**

Achieving this qualification will give you an advantage when applying for a job in the early years sector. The types of role you will be ready for are:

- preschool assistant
- nursery assistant
- early years assistant
- childminder's helper.

When taken as part of a full study programme, typically alongside GCSE maths or English, this qualification also gives you a sound basis to progress further within the early years sector to a level 3 qualification such as a Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Children's Play, Learning and Development (Early Years Educator), a Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Children's Play, Learning and Development (Early Years Educator), or an Advanced Apprenticeship in Children and Young People's Workforce (Early Years Educator).

### **Who supports this qualification?**

This qualification is supported by the following professional body:

- PACEY (Professional Association for Childcare and Early Years) – [www.pacey.org.uk](http://www.pacey.org.uk)

This qualification is supported by the following trade association:

- Early Education (The British Association for Early Childhood Education) – [www.early-education.org.uk](http://www.early-education.org.uk)

This qualification is supported by the following employer:

- The Children's Workshop Pre-School – [www.childrensworkshop.com](http://www.childrensworkshop.com)

### **Further information**

The BTEC Level 2 Technical Diploma in Children's Play, Learning and Development (Early Years Assistant) could also be complemented by qualifications such as GCSE Maths and GCSE English.

Further information about the qualification can also be accessed at:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-technical/childrens-play-learning-and-development-early-years-assistant.html>