

Statement of Purpose

100/6244/0 - Pearson BTEC Level 2 First Diploma in Children's Care, Learning and Development

Who is the qualification for?

This qualification is intended as a Technical Certificate at level 2 (360 GLH) designed for post-16 students working at that level. It is designed for students who wish to work with children in early years settings, either in a supervised capacity upon achievement of the qualification, or after further study at Level 3 as an 'Early Years Educator'.

What does this qualification cover?

This qualification consists of five mandatory units, which equip students with the vital knowledge, understanding and skills needed to work with children in a supervised capacity, covering the following areas:

- child development – to ensure students understand the child development milestones and theories in order to appropriately observe and support children's development during their placement (30 hours for this unit)
- health and safety and child protection – to ensure students can keep children in their care safe
- communicating with adults and children – which will develop students' skills in communicating with adults (for example colleagues, superiors, parents/carers) and children during their placement (30 hours for this unit)
- preparing and maintaining environments for childcare – which will equip students with the skills needed to create and maintain suitable environments for children to be in, for example during play and learning activities
- professional development, roles and responsibilities in childcare – will develop students' understanding of their role in working with children, the roles of those they work with and their associated responsibilities. This will also develop their employability and childcare skills through the significant placement requirement of the unit (240 hours).

Students can then choose one optional specialist unit from a choice of three, depending on their interest and intended career specialism, namely: supporting children's play and learning, the development and care of babies and young children under three years, and providing support for children with disabilities and/or special educational needs.

All students are required to undertake at least 300 hours of supervised work placement in early years settings in order to develop the competencies required to work with children.

What could this qualification lead to?

Students who achieve this qualification will be qualified to work under supervision with children in early years settings, for example as a nursery nurse assistant or assisting a childminder delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). This qualification is listed on the National College of Teaching and Leadership's Qualifications Finder for those delivering the EYFS in England. It is also recognised by the Northern Ireland Social Care Council as qualifying students to work with children under supervision.

Alternatively, students taking GCSEs in English and maths alongside this Level 2 qualification may wish to progress to a Level 3 Early Years Educator qualification, which will qualify students to work with children in early years settings and gain 'Early Years Educator' status.

This qualification is part of a larger suite of BTEC Children's Care, Learning and Development qualifications

The BTEC Level 2 First Diploma in Children's Care, Learning and Development is 360 GLH. Pearson also offers a BTEC Level 2 First Certificate in Children's Care, Learning and Development which is 180 GLH.

The BTEC Level 2 First Diploma in Children's Care, Learning and Development is available to students post-16 and provides students who successfully pass all the requirements of the qualification with "assistant practitioner" status. This allows successful students to work in a supervised capacity within an early years setting.

The BTEC Level 2 First Certificate in Children's Care, Learning and Development is either for pre-16 students who want to follow a vocational programme in that sector, or for post-16 students who want an introduction to the vocational area as part of a more general programme of study. The Certificate does not provide the student with "assistant practitioner" status. The Certificate comprises three of the mandatory units of the Diploma and students are able to progress from it to the Diploma.

The Certificate and the Diploma both support progression to post-16 qualifications at level 3 for students who wish to work in early year settings in a supervised capacity or as an "Early Years Educator".

Who supports this qualification?

This qualification is supported by the following employers and professional bodies:

- British Association for Early Childhood Education
- Professional Association for Childcare and Early Years
- Beechwood Childcare Limited
- Sheringham Nursery School
- Ellesmere Children's Centre
- London Early Years Foundation

Support letters from these organisations are available at the following link:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-firsts/childrens-care-learning-and-development-2006-nqf.html>.

Further information

Further information on the qualification can also be accessed at

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-firsts/childrens-care-learning-and-development-2006-nqf.html>.