

Children's Care, Learning and Development

Student Guide Level 3 BTEC National Certificate

What is the Level 3 BTEC National Certificate in Children's Care, Learning and Development?

The qualification will build the essential practical skills and understanding to provide learners with the principles of children's care enabling progression to employment or higher level education. Work experience and links to the workplace form a central part of the programme. There will be an emphasis on employment opportunities, so that students can choose to progress into a specific area of work, and if already in employment, move on to a more responsible position within the sector.

The course is designed to be flexible so that it reflects individual career aspirations and the teaching strengths of centres, therefore making it possible to enter specific vocations or to explore more specialist aspects of job roles within the sector. There are seven compulsory core units plus a range of specialist areas (to total 720 guided learning hours).

Students are given the opportunity of gaining a broad understanding of the sector and a specialist understanding of specific aspects of the sector. With successful completion learners will achieve qualified practitioner status (for the 0-8 age group). Please note that the units studied may vary to meet local or learner needs.

Where will this qualification take me?

Employment opportunities

With the international recognition of BTEC courses such as this, you can progress straight into employment. If successful there are a variety of potential careers that you can explore, all of which will benefit from your studies, for example: children's nurse or play therapist.

Further vocational and academic qualifications

The BTEC National Certificate in Children's Care, Learning and Development has the equivalence of two GCE A Levels, and it is possible for you to progress further into higher education, as successful BTEC National qualifications give UCAS points for university applications.

How long will it take me to complete this qualification?

The length of the course is dependant on the centre. Normally, it will take two academic years to complete but it can be studied for longer.

What are the entry requirements?

The entry requirements for the Edexcel Level 3 BTEC National Certificate in Children's Care, Learning and Development are laid down by individual centres. Fundamentally you should have a broad education including, for example, a BTEC First in Children's Care, Learning and Development and/or four GCSEs (graded C or above) and, in addition, the interest and potential to succeed in achieving the qualification.

How can I find out more?

Ask your careers teacher or adviser or your local school or college for more information or see the Edexcel website – www.edexcel.org.uk/btec

Contact us

www.edexcel.org.uk/about/contact

About Edexcel

Edexcel is a Pearson company and the UK's largest awarding body. We offer academic and vocational qualifications and testing to more than 25,000 schools, colleges, employers and other places of learning here and in over 100 countries worldwide.