

Level 3 Diploma

# Early Years Educator

Learn how to provide high quality early education and care to children through an evidence based approach, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Learners that achieve this qualification can be included in staff to child ratios at Level 3.

**Fully funded**



## Who is this course for?

This course will equip learners with the knowledge, skills and understanding necessary to work effectively with young children in a variety of early years settings. Learners who achieve this qualification will become competent Early Years Educators who can provide high-quality care and education for children from birth to 5 years old, with an understanding of children aged 5-7. This occupation is found in a range of maintained and private, voluntary, and independent settings.

## What qualification will you gain?

Participants on this programme will gain a Level 3 Diploma in Early Years Educator alongside an Early Years Educator apprenticeship qualification.

## What will you study?

Learners will gain in-depth knowledge of child psychology, development theories, and the fundamental role of play. Learners will develop skills in creating inclusive, enabling indoor and outdoor environments, implementing the observation, assessment, and planning cycle to support individual learning, and maintaining professional relationships with parents, colleagues and outside agencies. Learners will have opportunities to develop and demonstrate a commitment to reflective practice.

## Programme start

The programme start date is April 2026.

## Express your interest

Complete our online form and we'll get in touch:  
[train.letta.org.uk/apprenticeships/](https://train.letta.org.uk/apprenticeships/)

CONTACT US



**020 3405 1120**



[train@letta.org.uk](mailto:train@letta.org.uk)



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## DfE staffing ratio

This qualification is developed using the Department for Education level 3 criteria for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and is approved by the Department for Education. This means that the qualification meets the minimum knowledge, understanding and skills that a Level 3 Early Years Educator needs to demonstrate to be qualified to support young children from birth to 5 years old. Learners that achieve this qualification can be included in the EYFS staff to child ratios at Level 3.

## Teaching, learning and assessment

This is a 15 month qualification followed by an assessment period. Teaching includes face-to-face conference days, remote tutorials, asynchronous study and formative and summative tasks. Participants will learn from experts in the field, and have the opportunity to visit specialist settings where they will see theory and practice put into action. Participants will be supported in their studies and practice by a professional tutor, and a team of programme tutors and expert facilitators. Progress is measured through a virtual portfolio consisting of assignments, evidence of professional competence in work-based situations, and practical demonstrations that apply the knowledge and skills gained. There are no written exams.

## End Point Assessment

Upon completion of the programme participants will undertake an End Point Assessment (EPA). This will consist of an observation with questioning, a professional discussion and a portfolio of evidence.

## Examples of module content

- Child development
- Working in partnership
- Safeguarding
- Pedagogical approaches
- Curriculum and assessment

## English and maths requirements

Learners without level 2 English or maths will have the opportunity to gain these qualifications at no cost as part of the programme of study. Reasonable requests for exemption will be considered.

## Entry requirements

Applicants must demonstrate the following:

- Minimum age 16
- Be employed full or part-time in a nursery, school or educational setting, working with children aged 0-8 years.
- Completion of an entry assessment and achieved a pass in English and maths initial assessments
- A participant may be ineligible for funding if they already hold a higher level qualification in the same area of study. LETTA can advise candidates as to eligibility.

## Outcomes

After successfully completing all assessment activities, participants will gain:

- Diploma in Early Years Educator (Level 3)
- Early Years Educator Level 3 Apprenticeship Qualification

## Funding

This qualification is fully funded up to the value of £7,000.

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[train@letta.org.uk](mailto:train@letta.org.uk)



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We invest in people Platinum