

A photograph of a baby sitting on the floor, painting on a canvas. The baby is wearing a light blue t-shirt and has paint on their hands and legs. The background is a white canvas with blue and green paint strokes. The photo is set against a dark blue geometric background with a yellow border.

Learn
PLUS US

Level 3

**Early Years
Educator**

Apprenticeship

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Early Years Educator

NCFE LEVEL 3

Early Years Educators and other job roles such as nursery nurse and childminders, are highly trained professionals who play a key role in ensuring that young children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe. They work in a range of settings including full day care, children's centres, pre-schools, reception classes and as childminders.

The Level 3 Early Years Educator prepares learners to become Early Years Educators, enabling them to work with children from birth to 5 years and gain knowledge of children aged 5 to 7 years.

On completion of this apprenticeship learners will be able to be included in the ratios as Early Years Educators.

ENROLMENT TIMELINE

Learn Plus Us believe in “right learner, right course”. By that we mean it is crucial that all apprentices are accurately matched to an apprenticeship programme that suits their job description, their prior learning and ability to achieve all aspects of the course. Therefore, anyone wishing to enrol on one of our apprenticeship programmes must complete the following steps to confirm eligibility:

Potential apprentices will attend an Information, Advice & Guidance (IAG) session with a member of our sales team to discuss their previous qualifications and experiences. They will also discuss their current job role as well as their aims and aspirations for the future. This session allows us to ensure that they are matched to a suitable apprenticeship programme. IAG sessions also provide information about the apprenticeship programme, including; Functional Skills, Off the Job training and End Point Assessment. Following this, they will be sent a welcome email with enrolment details. The email will include a link to Century; our dedicated Maths & English platform where they will be invited to complete some initial assessments.

They will then attend a sign-up session with one of our enrolment administrators. During this session they will be guided through the application process, which includes:

- An application form
- Initial assessments (Maths & English)
- Skill Scan
- This is Me form
- Additional Learning Support Application (if required)

Once the sign-up session is complete, the potential apprentice will attend their first teaching and learning session. An individualised training plan is created and shared with the apprentice and their employer confirming their planned start and end dates of the apprenticeship, all learning modules to be delivered along with the planned hours for these and the chosen End Point Assessment organisation.

Learning will commence from the planned start date, and they will be supported throughout the duration of their programme to **learn, achieve and excel**.



Course Information

At a glance

- Apprenticeship level: 3
- Course duration: 18-21 months
- Diploma awarding body: NCFE
- [Click here for more information about this apprenticeship](#)

How Is This Qualification Structured?

- Employment in a relevant setting is required for achievement of this qualification. A minimum of 350 working hours is required. There are 23 mandatory units and 486 guided learning hours.
- Full-time apprentices will typically spend 18 months on programme (before the gateway), working towards the occupational standard, with up to 6 hours off-the-job training per week, subject to their working hours. All apprentices will spend a minimum of 12 months on programme.
- During employment, learners will need support from a professional within the real work environment who will be required to complete professional development records.
- To gain this qualification the learner will need to: pass 23 mandatory units including longitudinal study, and pass an End-Point-Assessment.

Occupational Duties

- Planning and supervising child-initiated and adult-led activities which are based around the needs and interests of each individual child.
- Supporting children to develop numeracy and language skills through games and play.
- Having key person responsibility to help ensure each child feels safe and secure.
- Observing each child and shapes their learning experience to reflect their observations.
- Meeting the care needs of the individual child such as feeding, changing nappies and administration of medicine.
- Working in partnership with other colleagues, parents and/or carers or other professionals to meet the individual needs of each child.
- With additional experience, an Early Years Educator can become the manager of an early years setting.



END POINT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

WHAT IS GATEWAY?

Gateway is triggered when the apprentice has achieved all knowledge, skills and behaviours set out in the assessment plan, has been on programme for a minimum of 1 year and 1 day and the apprentice, employer and training provider feel the apprentice is ready for their EPA. The gateway period is dependent on the chosen EPAO and the standard being studied, and this allows the apprentice to prepare and agree a date with the EPAO to when the assessments will take place.

Note: Gateway can only be achieved once the following has been met:

English and Maths at Level 2 (or equivalent) to be achieved

Completion of knowledge, skills and behaviours

Early Years Educator Diploma (Level 3)

Minimum off the job training recorded

Level 3 Award in Paediatric First Aid

Gateway declaration signed by apprentice, line manager and apprenticeship trainer



WHAT IS END POINT ASSESSMENT?

End Point Assessment (EPA) is the final stage of an apprenticeship and it is made up of a range of synoptic assessments which are completed at the end of the apprentice's learning, once they have achieved gateway requirements. EPA takes place to ensure the apprentice has the knowledge, skills and behaviours outlined in the apprenticeship standard in order to be occupationally competent.

Assessments have been designed by employers in the sector and will be conducted by an Independent End Point Assessor (IEPA) who works for an End Point Assessment Organisation (EPAO). All assessments must be passed for the apprentice to achieve. Once the apprentice has completed all of their assessments, they will be awarded an overall grade (depending on the apprenticeship programme). This will either be Fail, Pass, Merit or Distinction.

Assessments which form EPA activities:

Assessment 1	Knowledge test
Assessment 2	Professional discussion underpinned by the portfolio of evidence. Performance in the EPA will determine the overall apprenticeship standard.



ESOL SUPPORT



“Teaching for me is not just a job – it is a vocation, a mission, a quest. There is no bigger reward, in my opinion, than that of seeing your learners progress and achieve their goals!”

Ava, Senior ESOL tutor

At Learn Plus Us we are proud to have a highly skilled and dedicated ESOL team who are experienced at adapting their teaching to meet the specific English language needs for learners. Whilst we offer ESOL for Work courses separately to apprenticeship delivery, we do provide the option for apprentices to access ESOL support during their apprenticeship should they need it. We also offer in-house learning support for those with other additional learning needs or barriers to learning.

SYSTEMS

CENTURY is an award-winning assessment, teaching and learning AI platform that has been developed by a team of experienced teachers, neuroscientists and technologists. This platform is where you will complete your initial assessments in English and Maths and it is used to determine the starting point for all potential apprentices. It will provide you with an individualised teaching and learning experience based on the results of your initial assessments.



NEXT STEPS

On completion of this apprenticeship learners will be able to be included in the ratios as Early Years Educators.

Apprentices can progress onto a Level 4 or 5 apprenticeship or qualification.

INTERESTED?

If you are interested in starting your apprenticeship journey? Please contact us at training@learnplusus.co.uk.

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