



Learn
PLUS US

Level 5

**Early Years Lead
Practitioner**

Apprenticeship

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Early Years Lead Practitioner

LEVEL 5

The Level 5 Early Years Lead Practitioner Apprenticeship is ideal for proactive, influential practitioners, working directly with children. These highly skilled professionals take an operational lead for the care, learning and development of all young children within their care and lead and support the practice of others. It is an excellent progression route for practitioners who hold a level 2 or level 3 qualification in Early Years; this course will progress and enhance their practice and knowledge.

A Lead Practitioner can adapt to individual needs ensuring inclusive and holistic provision. The main aim of the role is to be a proactive and influential practitioner, working directly with children, skilfully leading day-to-day practice at an operational level.

This Level 5 Apprenticeship is suitable for someone already working in an early years childcare or education setting and who is looking to lead, or someone already leading on the operational aspects of this provision. They are typically responsible for leading other practitioners. As active practitioners they are effective role models of play-based learning, supporting others to develop their own practice and will be responsible for the quality of learning and development across their setting.

Early Years Lead Practitioners work with and care for children from birth to 8 years. They play a massive role in supporting children to have the best start to their education. Research shows disadvantaged children are four months behind at age 5, 10 months behind by the age of 11, and 19 months behind when they reach 16. Early Years Lead Practitioners will personally help to close the gap and increase the life chances of the children they work with.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apprenticeship level: 5• Course duration: 18-23 months• Click here for more information about this apprenticeship
How Is This Qualification Structured?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Employment in a senior role within a relevant setting is required for achievement of this qualification. Employment must allow for skills application with babies and young children, sufficient to meet the assessment criteria for the qualification.• 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 (subject to working hours) per week. All apprentices must spend a minimum of 12 months on-programme.
Occupational Duties	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promoting the health and well-being of all children, self-regulation and resilience through learning rich environments, opportunities for challenging play and a healthy attitude towards risk taking.• Providing playful, sensitive interaction opportunities that reflect children's needs, interests and motivations in order to facilitate and extend deep level learning.• Participating in and leading daily routines and practice, including children's personal care, play and maintaining the physical environment.• Being an effective key person and advocate for the child, supporting the child's developmental, emotional and daily needs within a secure and caring relationship. Ensuring the effectiveness of the key person approach across the aspect or environment for which they are responsible.• To take the lead and provide support in disseminating best practice in the use of observation, assessments and planning to meet children's needs and extend their holistic development within the aspect or environment for which they are responsible.• Promoting, demonstrating and facilitating a clear understanding of diversity and equality to support all children, including those with additional needs, those of high ability, those with English as an additional language and those with disabilities. To be able to use and evaluate distinctive approaches which engage and support inclusivity of all children within their social and cultural context.

Occupational Duties - Continued

- Ensuring full compliance with all safeguarding legislation, policies and strategies at a national, local and setting-based level are promoted, implemented and embedded respectfully within practice, providing appropriate support to colleagues or the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- Demonstrating leaderful practice through the effective deployment of resources and practitioners keeping the child's voice and needs central to practice.
- Reflecting and building on practice through ongoing professional enquiry and action research to contribute to the pedagogical approach of their setting. To be accountable for day-to-day practice, longer term planning, management and training within the specific aspect or environment for which they are responsible.
- Establishing engaging, inclusive and collaborative relationships and participating in multi-agency meetings. Enabling and facilitating practitioners to develop professional relationships with parents, carers and multi-agencies to meet the individual needs of the children.
- Committing to becoming a reflective practitioner, enhancing skills and knowledge to improve pedagogical practice. To guide and support the development of the reflective practice of others.
- Initiating continuing professional development opportunities in response to identification of strengths and weaknesses both personally and within your team. Providing constructive feedback on points of practice on an informal day-to-day basis and contributing to formal performance management as necessary.
- Ensuring compliance with all Health and Safety legislation, policies and strategies at a national, local and setting-based level.
- Maintaining effective administrative systems including development records, assessments, report writing and record keeping, such as risk assessments and safeguarding concerns.
- Working in collaborative partnership with parents and carers in the planning, implementation and review of strategies in place to support children's experience, holistic development, learning and progress.
- Leading and managing across the area, aspect or environment for which they are responsible for.



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

Minimum off the job training recorded

Portfolio of evidence

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	Observation with questions
Assessment 2	Professional discussion underpinned by a portfolio of evidence
Assessment 3	Case study with report, presentation and questioning



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 expected to work within a senior role at a childcare setting. Learners may progress onto a suitable degree programme.

INTERESTED?

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

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