

TQUK Level 3 Diploma for the Children's Workforce (Early Years Educator)

The Level 3 diploma is currently funded through the Free Courses for Jobs programme, with limited course places available to start in November 2026. To better support learners preparing for the **TQUK Level 3 Diploma for the Children's Workforce (Early Years Educator)**, we have introduced a new pre-Level 3 course: '**The Early Years Essentials: A Pathway to Level 3 Educator**'. This course is specifically designed for those wishing to progress onto the Level 3 qualification and is now a mandatory part of the pathway. Enrolment is now open.

Your Pathway to Becoming an Early Years Educator

Step 1: Complete the Mandatory Essentials Course: 'Early Years Essentials: A Pathway to Level 3 Educator'

Step 2: Progress to the TQUK Level 3 Diploma for the Children's Workforce (Early Years Educator)

Step 1: Choose a pre-level 3 course: 'Early Years Essentials: A Pathway to Level 3 Educator'

Day	Time	Dates	Duration	Tutor	Course link to enrol
Monday Evening	6.30 pm to 8.30 pm	21 September to 2 November 2026	4 weeks	Kath Pullein	Course Details ontrack: Learner Hub
Wednesday Evening	6.30 pm to 8.30 pm	16 September to 28 October 2026	4 weeks	Caroline Wilson	Course Details ontrack: Learner Hub

Step 2: Progress to the TQUK Level 3 Diploma for the Children's Workforce (Early Years Educator)

Day	Time	Dates	Duration	Tutor	Course Link to apply
Monday Morning	9:30am to 12:30pm	2 nd Nov 2026 to 23 rd August 2027	17 weeks	Kath Pullein	Course Details ontrack: Learner Hub
Monday Evening	6.00 pm to 9.00 pm	16 th Nov 2026 to 23 rd August 2027	17 weeks	Kath Pullein	Course Details ontrack: Learner Hub
Wednesday Evening	6.00 pm to 9.00 pm	11 Nov 2026 to 25 August 2027	17 weeks	Caroline Wilson	Course Details ontrack: Learner Hub

Further information

Learners must be either working in an Early Years setting or have a placement secured in a setting prior to starting the level 3 course. Learners must be able to demonstrate their ability to work with all children aged 0-5 years, therefore if the setting they work in, or have secured placement in, only offers places for a certain age range of children,

learners must secure additional placements to enable them to work across the full 0-5 year age range. It can take time to secure placements, so if individuals are interested in this course, they must start looking for a placement as soon as possible, and will not be able to begin the course without one.

*This course is currently fully funded under the free courses for jobs. This means that learners may be eligible to complete this course for free if they meet the following requirements. Individuals can get a free qualification if they're aged 19 or over and earn below £26,800 or are unemployed.

If you, or anybody within your team, are interested in completing a recognised Early Years Educator level 3 qualification, we encourage you to enrol on the Early Years Essentials course as soon as possible as places are limited.