



# CHILDREN'S PLAY, LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

**QUALIFICATION:** BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate

**Examination Board** PEARSON

## **What do I need to know or be able to do before taking this course?**

Any student wishing to complete the Children's Play, Learning and Development qualification must have a desire to work with children and to enable them to develop to their full potential. As BTEC qualifications are coursework based, you must be willing to work independently, as well within a team. All students will need to complete 50 hours of work experience during the course.

A level 3 candidate is expected to have passed 5 GCSE subjects at grades A\*-C (9 - 5 in the reformed linear GCSE format), including English or an appropriate intermediate level course.

## **Why choose Children's Play, Learning and Development?**

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Children's Play, Learning and Development gives an introduction to study of the sector. It is intended as an Applied General qualification, and is equivalent in size to one A Level. It supports access to a range of higher education courses, possibly but not exclusively in the early years sector, if taken alongside further Level 3 qualifications.

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Children's Play, Learning and Development is generally taken alongside other qualifications as part of a two-year programme of learning. It will enable learners to progress to a wide range of degree programmes. The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to meeting admission requirements to many relevant courses. It can be taken alongside, for example:

- A Levels in Biology and Psychology, which could lead to a BSc (Hons) in Paediatric Nursing
- A Levels in English and Psychology, which could lead to a BA (Hons) in Childhood Studies
- A Levels in English and History, which could lead to a BA (Hons) in Primary Education.

BTECs also provide students with attractive employability skills, such as problem-solving, intrapersonal and interpersonal skills. They also provide a number of transferable skills that can support students in progressing to university, such as the ability to learn independently, research actively and methodically and provide opportunities to enhance their ability to present confidently whilst being effective as part of a group.

## **What kind of student is this course suitable for?**

This course will appeal to students who:

- enjoy studying a subject that is relevant to their own lives and experience;
- want the opportunity to carry out practical work as well as classwork;
- enjoy discovering about themselves in practical situations;
- want to find out more about the subject through personal investigation;
- are interested in developing an understanding of caring organisations and the clients they serve;
- want to study a course that is active and enjoyable;
- wish to move on to a related career or higher education course.

## Course Structure

The qualification is made up of 4 units, of which 3 are mandatory. 2 of these units are externally assessed. The remaining units are internally assessed.

Mandatory units:

- Unit 1** - Children's Development (External)
- Unit 2** - Development of Children's Communication, Literacy and Numeracy Skills (External)
- Unit 3** - Play and Learning (Internal Synoptic)

The final unit will be:

- Unit 5** - Keeping Children Safe (Internal)

## What courses or employment can I progress to?

The BTEC Level 3 qualification in Children's Play, Learning and Development qualifies for UCAS points. It gives students a wide choice of progression options into further study, training, or relevant employment. Students who successfully complete the qualification will be well equipped to move onto degrees, BTEC Higher National Diplomas or NVQs.

Students completing this course will have access to a wide range of careers and higher education opportunities. You learn and use a variety of transferable skills; these include collecting and analysing data, communicating findings in different ways and identifying and developing links between different parts of the subject. These skills are in great demand and are recognised by employers and universities / colleges as being of great value. It combines well with many AS and A2 level courses leading to opportunities in many areas including Paediatric Nursing, Primary Education, Child Care and Social Work.