THE LITTLE BOOK OF
EARLY CHILDHOOD
STUDIES AT
BROOKES
What will I study?

You will examine how toddlers make sense of the world around them through play and interaction with adults, both in the family and in different cultures. You will also learn how young children grow and develop.

You will observe and work with young children in different settings. This practical, hands-on experience will support the theory you learn in class.

As you progress through the course, you can focus on the particular areas of study that interest you most. We have a diverse range of modules available, including specialisms in outdoor learning, literature for young children, and childhood and the media.
Why Early Childhood Studies?

- You can explore this fascinating stage of human development, and discover how children learn and grow.
- You will examine the cultural experiences of children from a range of perspectives.
- You can equip yourself for a career in the early years sector, with both professional and academic skills.
“I was attracted to the programme by the balance of theory and practical experience involved. I felt that the placements allowed me to gain valuable practical experience which would help make a decision about what career to pursue in the future.”

BECKY TURNER, EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES GRADUATE
Work placements

You will go on placements in a range of early years settings during your course to help you make links between theory, research and practice.

In Year 1 you will visit placements to observe and learn about working with children. During Year 2 there is an extended placement module where you will gain direct practical experience of working with young children and early year’s professionals.

In your final year you may choose a placement according to your particular interests, for example working with children with special educational needs or with educational charities.
International Teaching Experience

We always seek new and innovative ways to expand your work experiences; currently, for example, we are linking with Schools and Early Years provision in South America.

It offers the ideal opportunity to gain work experience and employment skills, whilst also giving you the chance to live abroad and immerse yourself in the local culture.
International visits

We are keen to explore ways in which you can broaden your experience of education and development. We do this by organising visits to countries such as The Gambia, where we have developed long-standing relationships with schools and colleges. The School of Education also runs an exchange scheme with universities such as Orebro University, Sweden and the University of Stavanger in Norway.

Please note that the costs of any optional field trips are not included in your course fee and a separate fee will apply.
“Oxford is a great place to study, with beautiful surroundings and opportunities to do various different activities. I like that the course is situated at Harcourt Hill. It is quiet and peaceful so easy to do work at, yet town is only a short journey away for when you want to go somewhere with a bit more going on.”

MOLLIE PEARCE, EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES GRADUATE
Research and expertise

Research in the department spans learning and development from the early years through primary, secondary, further and higher education, including work-based and lifelong learning. Academic staff in the department work in an environment that brings together education, psychology and health sciences.

We encourage you to become a researcher in your own right across a range of modules, leading up to a dissertation in your final year.

By designing and undertaking your own research you will develop excellent analytical and independent study skills to support your CV.
95% of our research is internationally recognised
SOURCE: REF 2014

100% of Early Childhood Studies students say that the library resources supported their learning well
2017 National Student Satisfaction Survey
Source: Unistats
Career prospects

Graduates of the Early Childhood Studies course embark on a variety of careers. Many students use their degree to go on to train for careers such as:

- Teaching
- Social work
- Educational psychology
- Play therapy
- Youth and family work
Recent Early Childhood Studies graduates have gone on to jobs such as:

- Local government communications support worker
- Therapy support worker with the NHS
- Forest school leader
- Primary school manager
- Nursery nurse development assistant
- National Museum of Wales employee
- Children’s centre outreach worker
School of Education

For more information about Early Childhood Studies:

www.brookes.ac.uk/ecs