

EARLY CHILDHOOD

Postgraduate Certificate Award

The Early Childhood Postgraduate Certificate Award is a Masters level course for experienced practitioners and managers working in early years settings. It is specifically designed for part-time students working full-time and can be taken on campus or online. The course explores three broad areas of early years practice:

- understanding learning and development in the early years
- creating good quality experiences and environments for young children
- the challenges of leadership

Day / Time / Venue

This one year part time course takes place in three academic terms, September–December; January–April; May–July. It can be taken on campus at our Harcourt Hill Campus or via distance learning. The distance learners work through the same programme online. In addition, both face-to-face and online learners will have opportunities to interact online.

On-campus sessions are run in the evenings at the Harcourt Hill campus from 17:00–20:00 on either Tuesday or Thursday evenings. A typical pattern of attendance would be seven face-to-face sessions and two online discussions for each module. Each module has an attached assignment which can draw directly on your own practice and setting.

Course cost for 2019/20

Home/EU fee: £620 per single module.
International fee: £1,500 per single module.

MODULE STRUCTURE TERM 1

Learning and Development in Childhood

You will explore contemporary theories and research relating to young children's social and cognitive development and their implications for children's formal and informal learning. Alternative explanations of developmental processes will be discussed, drawing upon research evidence and your own observations from a range of settings. From a sharing of these individual enquiries, the group will reflect on the implications of their findings for the experiences and opportunities provided for young children.

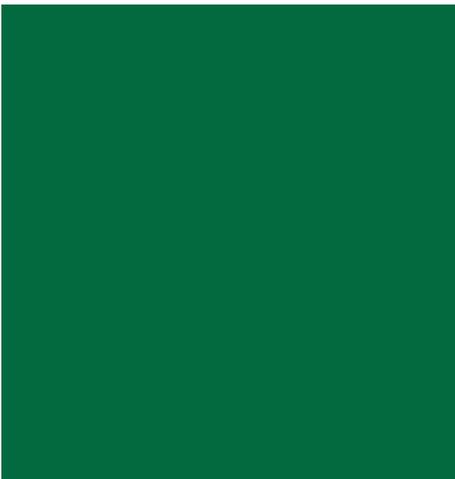
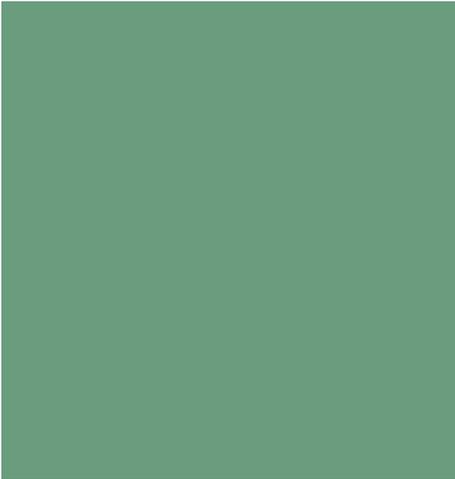


For further information
please contact:

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TERM 2

Children's Imaginative Worlds

You will explore the ways in which children seem to use their imaginations both to create alternative worlds to occupy and to make sense of their experiences. The development and psychological purposes of imagination will be explored and particular domains of imaginative experience examined. You will study a particular domain in depth (examples of domains include: children's literature, children's spirituality, drawing and painting, musicality, imaginative play and role play, children and new technologies).

Independent Study: Investigating Practice

'Investigating Practice' will introduce you to methods to enable you to design and execute a small scale project or enquiry focussing on an aspect of education and/or care provided in an early years' context. With the support of a specialist early years tutor, you will explore the relationship between policy and practice as worked through in the teaching, learning and curricula opportunities provided in Early Years settings. This will include opportunities to develop and evaluate a project in your own setting, critique the research of others and analyse the ways in which research evidence is drawn upon in the development of early years' policy and practice.

TERM 3

Working with Children and their Families

This module focuses on the role of those working in services for children and their families. Course participants will be examining the rationale for the development of policy and practice aimed at the improvement of the quality of children's lives and exploring the ways in which such practices position children and families. The evidence for a range of interventions is examined and features of effective practice identified. A fundamental concern in this area of work is the difficulties of ensuring effective communication between those working with children and their families and the nature and complexity of this communication. Both the organisational issues and the skills for practitioners will be a focus for study.

WHAT CAN THE COURSE LEAD TO?

The 60 master's level credits gained is one third of a full master's programme, and can be built into a full master's with the addition of 2 optional modules and the compulsory research methods and dissertation elements.

HOW TO APPLY

For more information and to register your interest please contact the **Programme Administrator:**

T: +44 (0) 1865 488617

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If you would like to discuss the course in further detail please contact:

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