

Early Years Qualifications

Early Years Educator Qualifications 2016

Practitioners who registered for a qualification from 1 September 2014 must hold a qualification that meets the [early years educator criteria](#) to be considered full and relevant and to be counted in the level 3 ratios.

For further info on statutory qualifications for the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework go to

Preparing for access to Level 3 Early Years Educator (EYE)

GCSE English and maths at Grade C or above will now be required on exit of the Level 3 Early Years Educator qualification. This means you can now study for your GCSE's alongside your Level 3 qualification. On 31st July 2015 the [Skills Funding Agency](#) announced learners can achieve the GCSE qualifications by the time they have completed their Level 3 studies.

GCSE requirement for higher education pathways	GCSE requirements - preparing for your Level 3 Qualification All programmes are classed as Full and Relevant qualifications for the purpose of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage	Funding available to setting /childminder
<p>Community Learning MK Please call 01908 556703 to make an appointment</p> <p>Milton Keynes Council Adult Learning</p> <p>adult.education@milton-keynes.gov.uk</p> <p>and</p> <p>Pre-School Learning Alliance PLA</p>	<p>Learners will be required to study GCSE's and achieve on completion of their qualification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maths and English GCSE (grade C or above) for the new Early Years Educator Level 3 <p>CL MK (formerly ACE) and the Pre School Learning Alliance offer free GCSE and Functional Skills courses and qualifications in English and maths.</p> <p>Before joining a course, you will be asked to attend a skills check session so that you can be given advice about the right course for you. There are pre support classes to prepare you before embarking on your GCSEs.</p> <p>There are 1 year courses running from September to June with exams and controlled assessments throughout the year. Adults enrolling on these courses often need a GCSE for work or study purposes, typically for entry onto a teacher training courses and other degree programmes. Commitment and excellent attendance are required, as these are intensive courses.</p>	<p>GCSE's are Government funded – please apply through your chosen learning centre</p>

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provided by Tel: 01908 263700 email: milton.keynes@pre-school.org.uk Web: www.pre-school.org.uk/milton-keynes/	Web links to the exam board web sites English Maths Alternatively contact your local learning centre for details about access to GCSE's	

The **Skills Funding Agency** are continuing to fully fund learners (aged 16+) to take GCSE English and Maths qualifications if you do not currently possess these at grades A* – C. This is regardless of what other prior qualifications you hold. As these GCSEs are fully funded, practitioners at all levels with varying career ambitions may wish to take advantage of this opportunity.

Level 3 Early Years Educator

The Council works with the following providers to ensure quality provision, alternatively, practitioners can select their own provision.

PLEASE NOTE: These programmes require you to be continuously working with children in the Early Years Foundation Stage for the duration of the qualification

Approved Council learning centres	Level 2 Certificate Level 3 Diploma Early Years Educator
Community Learning MK's Adult Learning Faculty (formerly Adult Continuing Education (ACE)) Classroom based training: Tel: 01908 556703 email: adult.education@milton-keynes.gov.uk web:	Awarding Body - City & Guilds: Level 2 Certificate and Level 3 Diploma for the Early Years Practitioner (Early Years Educator) Evening and weekend attendance TBC GCSE's English and maths, at grade C or above will be required on exit of the L3 qualification.
Pre School Learning Alliance PSLA provided by Tel: 01908 266685 Email: trainingmk@pre-school.org.uk Web: www.pre-school.org.uk/milton-keynes/	PSLA will be offering a Level 2 Certificate and 3 Diploma awarded by Cache. PSLA offer to break down course fees in 10 monthly instalments for learners or pre-schools paying for their course fees. The next CACHE L2/3 Early Years Educator course is scheduled to start on Tuesday 12th April 2016 at 9.30am - 2.30pm, every Tuesday for 24 weeks during term time only. An information day

Approved Council learning centres	Level 2 Certificate Level 3 Diploma Early Years Educator
	<p>will be held on Monday 7th March 2016 at 9.30am - 2.30pm. Both will be held in the training room at Kiln Farm.</p> <p>Funding is available for Level 1 & 2 learners receiving eligible benefits and Level 3 applicants can apply for 24+ advanced learning loans.</p> <p>GCSE's English and maths, at grade C or above will be required on exit of the Level 3 qualification</p>

Loans and Financial support for Further Education Courses

19-23 adult learning loans - if it's your first level 3 then you will not have to pay for the course. Apply through your chosen learning centre.

24+ Advanced Learning Loan

If you are aged 24 and over and starting a course on, or after, 1st August 2013 you may qualify for a 24+ Advanced Learning Loan. Most learners aged 24 and over, studying at Level 3 and above, will qualify for these new loans - it's easy to apply and you won't have to pay anything back until your income is over £21,000 a year.

Please contact your chosen learning centre / FE provider to enquire or visit [Student finance - GOV.UK](http://www.gov.uk/student-finance)

16-24 apprentices would be fully fundable. Other Government funding options are available. Please contact your learning centre for guidance. **Apprenticeships** – if you are recruiting an apprentice, [More information can be found here](#) and www.apprenticeships.org.uk. Apprentices can also study alongside gaining their GCSE's on exit.

Qualifications started before September 2014

Practitioners who completed or registered for a qualification before 1 September 2014 must hold a qualification that meets the [full and relevant criteria](#) to be counted in the specified ratios at levels 2 and 3.

Qualifications started after September 2014

Practitioners who registered for a qualification from 1 September 2014 must hold a qualification that meets the [early years educator criteria](#) to be considered full and relevant and to be counted in the level 3 ratios.

To count in the ratios at level 3, staff holding an early years educator qualification must also have achieved [GCSEs in English and maths at grade C](#) or above.

Other useful websites about qualifications

www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/earlylearningandchildcare

Are your recruiting staff and comparing levels?

www.gov.uk/what-different-qualification-levels-mean/compare-different-qualification-levels

www.accreditedqualifications.org.uk/qualifications-and-credit-framework-qcf.html

Comparing overseas qualifications? Contact [NARIC - UK NARIC](#)