

BA (Hons) Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) Top-Up



Course Overview

The course has been developed in partnership with employers to ensure the current government reforms in education are met. The reforms focus on early childhood development and the importance of high quality early years provision to provide the foundations to prepare young children and babies for the best start in life.

The program will also ensure you are fully prepared for a successful career and allows students who currently hold a foundation degree or a Higher National Diploma (HND) to complete further study to top up their qualifications and obtain a full honours degree. You will build on what you have already learnt from previous study and will gain knowledge to support you in your career.

The course has been updated in line with the National Occupational Standards for the Level 6 Early Years Educator.

The theoretical modules and research project aim to integrate study with your own personal, professional and work experience, and to allow you to reflect on your practice-based application of theory.

Sessions involve a range of learning opportunities including group work, lectures, seminars, workshops, and case studies as well as approximately 60% independent, self-directed, study. To help you with your independent study you will have a personal tutor who will support your ongoing well-being and ensure that you have a positive learning experience.

What You Will Study

You will study a range of theoretical modules, covering elements which will enhance your understanding of working with children in early years and primary education. You will have the opportunity to undertake a major study in education which will develop independent research skills and personal and professional competence in planning for and carrying out a project.

Modules studied include:

- Health and well-being
- Critical Issues in SEND
- Research methodologies
- Major study in education

START DATE

September 2026

LEVEL

Level 6

STUDY MODE

Full-time

DURATION

FT: 1 year. PT: 2 years.

AWARDING BODY

University of
Huddersfield

LOCATION

Wakefield College



For further information about this course, including Entry Requirements, Assessments and Further Study, scan the QR code.

Need More Information?

For additional course information please contact the Course Information Team on **01924 789111** or email **courseinfo@heartofyorkshire.ac.uk**.

To learn more about Wakefield College, our facilities and how we can support you please visit our website **www.heartofyorkshire.ac.uk**.

Quick Links



How to
Apply



Student
Support



Virtual
Tours

How You Will Be Assessed

Assessments vary and include essays, written reports, reflections, student-led seminars, presentations, and research reports.

Entry Requirements

Foundation Degree in Young Children's Learning and Development or Early Years.

OR

Completion of the first two years of a BA (Hons) or an equivalent qualification such as a Higher National Diploma in a relevant subject.

Fee Information

Full time: £7,400

Part time: £3,700 per year

Further Study

Upon successful completion of your studies, progression onto the following postgraduate programmes may be of interest:

- Early Years Initial Teacher Training (EYTS)
- Graduate Entry Mainstream Teacher Training
- Primary Education (Early Years and Key Stage 1)
- PGCE with QTS Teacher Training; Primary Education (General)
- PGCE with QTS Teacher training (Lifelong Learning)
- PGCE full-time Teacher training (Lifelong Learning)
- PGCE part-time Action Research for Education; MA Early Childhood Studies
- MA Education
- MA Leadership in Education and Public Services
- PgDip Education and Youth Work
- MA Youth and Community Work (Professional Studies)