



**HIGHER
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HEART OF
WORCESTERSHIRE COLLEGE

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Course Validated by



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HEART OF
**WORCESTERSHIRE
COLLEGE**

2025-26



EdA Early Years (0-8) (HTQ)

Are you passionate about the care and education of children or do you aspire to support children and families?

COURSE OVERVIEW

The Foundation Degree in Early Years is offered as a Full-time two-year course or a Part-time three-year course and is designed to allow you to work while studying. It enables you to develop your professional knowledge, skills and attributes to enhance your career options in the early years or family support sector.

The Foundation Degree in Early Years course has two pathway options:-

FdA Early Years (0-8yrs) pathway option (UCAS Code: FEYP) is for students joining who have already met the requirements for EYE (Level 3 full and relevant /approved qualification) and wish to extend their knowledge and professional practice.

FdA Early Years (0-8yrs) (Professional Practice) pathway option (UCAS Code: FDEY) meets the requirements for Early Years Educator (EYE approved qualification) (including over 770 hours of practice in an Ofsted registered setting which can be paid employment). This enables students to meet the "full and relevant" approved qualification requirement for practice in an early years setting.

TO APPLY FOR THIS COURSE:

Full-Time course: please apply through the UCAS website.

Part-Time course: ensure all applications are made through the College system by clicking the 'Apply Online' button rather than through UCAS.

LOCATION WORCESTER

WEYR-DG5-2024

(Delivery sites may change dependent upon viable recruitment)

COURSE LENGTH

2 years full-time
3 years part-time

TUITION FEES

Full-time: £8500 per year
Part-time: £4250 per year

ADDITIONAL COSTS

Students are required to pay for DBS checks during the course of the programme.

AWARD ON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION

University of Worcester Foundation Degree in Early Years (Level 5)

HOW TO APPLY

Full Time: Please apply via UCAS at www.ucas.com using our institution code H19.

Part-Time: Please apply through our website at www.howcollege.ac.uk



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MODULES

Students on the Full-time course for both pathways options will study the following Level 4 and Level 5 modules over two years:

Year 1:-

- The Developing Child
- Health and Well-Being
- Playful Pedagogy
- Plus the relevant pathway module – see below*

Year 2:-

- Childhood: a Global Perspective
- Policy into Practice
- Safeguarding Children's Welfare in the Early Years & Integrating Our work with Other Agencies.
- Plus the relevant pathway module – see below*

*The pathway modules:-

FdA Early Years (0-8yrs):

Introduction to Work-Based Learning (Yr. 1); Small-Scale Practice-Based Enquiry and Future Progression (Yr. 2)

FdA Early Years (0-8yrs) (Professional Practice):

Theory for the Early Years Foundation Graduate (Yr. 1);

Early Educator Small Scale Practice-Based Enquiry (Yr. 2)

Part-time will study three modules per year in Year 1 and 2, and two modules in Year 3

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Mature applicants are welcome to apply for non-standard entry.
- Minimum of four GCSEs at Grade C/4 or above or alternative qualifications.
- Evidence of Level 2 Literacy, for example key skills / Functional Skills at Level 2 or GCSE English Language at Grade C/4 or above. Non-standard entry also possible.
- 32 UCAS Tariff points: Acceptable qualifications include a minimum of 1 A Level or an equivalent Level 3 qualification, for example T Level Education & Childcare the CACHE Diploma or Edexcel BTEC National Diploma in Children's Care, Learning and Development.

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- All applicants are required to complete an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service Check. A reference that supports the student's commitment and and subscribe to the DBS Up-dating Service.

NB: For the Early Years (0-8) pathway, if you do not have evidence of Literacy at Level 2, it will be necessary to complete a non-standard entry essay to demonstrate competence in written English.

The College has a commitment to widening participation in Higher Education and will, therefore, give careful consideration to prior experiential learning, non-traditional qualifications and qualifications obtained outside of the United Kingdom. We welcome applications from experienced and mature practitioners who do not have the standard qualifications. On the application form, please state "non-standard entry route".

DELIVERY INFORMATION

Classroom lectures and workshops, discussion groups, on-line learning and independent research. We specialise in small group delivery.

Full-time Course - In the first year, one and a half days per week (for 22 weeks term-time) for taught sessions plus 2 days minimum of practice based work (paid employment) or voluntary placement per week. Approximately 12 hours per week guided independent study. In the second year, the taught sessions will be delivered over two days per week in term time.

Part-time Course - One day per week (for 22 weeks term-time) for taught sessions plus 7 hours minimum of practice based work (paid employment) or voluntary placement per week. Approximately 9 hours per week guided independent study.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

Assessment is all course work based; there are no formal examinations. The assignments link theory directly to practice and aim to develop the student as a reflective practitioner and focus on enhancing the quality of provision for children and families in the early years and related professions, such as SEN and family support work.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The FDEY will qualify you for a range of careers in the early years sector, including day nurseries, family support work, social care, children's centres, children's voluntary organisations and nursery management. With further qualifications you can enter Primary Teacher Training.

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You can progress from the FDEY to the University of Worcester to study either a BA (Hons) Top-Up in Integrated Working with Children and Families (1 year), or the Teaching in Primary Education (with QTS) BA (Hons) Top Up (1 yr. & 1 term), or the Child and Adolescent Mental Health BSc (Hons) Top-Up (1 yr) or Early Childhood Social Pedagogy BA (Hons) Top-Up (1yr). (NB: Teacher training also requires English, maths and science at grade C/4.) Similar Top-Ups are also available at other universities. After gaining Level 6, you can also apply to study a Masters in Social Work.

STAFF EXPERIENCE

The team are highly qualified with full Honours Degrees or Masters in Education. Other qualifications include QTLS, PGCE.

All staff are experienced practitioners in the childcare industry in both pre-school and school environments. They are therefore able to offer clear insights into day- to- day practice which supports the theory, both of which are necessary to study at this level. Specialist areas of additional experience: English, play work, early years, school Based Practice.

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