



Best
Practice
Network



Early Years Programme Pocket Guide

Discover our fully-funded
training programmes

**"This programme
presented a great
opportunity
to advance my
professional and
career development."**

Beth Spaul,
Graduate Early
Years Teacher



Learn. Share. Grow.



Funded by



Department
for Education



Best Practice Network

Rated “an Exceptional Training Provider”
by the DfE

Best Practice Network is at the forefront of educational training in England. We have developed a wide range of Early Years training programmes, putting the needs of Early Years settings first.

We can see how passionate staff at all levels are at providing exceptional care and education for 0-5 years and we share this ethos, striving to help every child have the same start in life.

We are motivated to achieve this by offering training programmes for every stage of a practitioner’s career. We envision a person beginning their journey with our Level 2 Early Years Practitioner apprenticeship and working their way up to achieve their Early Years Teacher Status or moving into a leadership role. Our programme tutors embody our vision and values which are reflected across all learning and practice, providing a consistent structure.

We are excited to introduce our new programmes, including EY SENCO Level 3, where we are the only provider in England where the course is fully funded by the DfE, championing SEND for Early Years!

We have created this guide to share with you our full Early Years offer for nurseries and settings to learn, share and grow along side Best Practice Network.

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“I’ve had a great experience with my tutor Sarah, she made me feel comfortable and really made sure that I understood anything I was unsure of.”

Early Years Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships can be used to recruit, upskill and retrain your staff

Hiring an apprentice

You can employ apprentices at different levels, from school leavers or recent graduates to people who wish to advance in their careers or change careers altogether.

The government offers a range of funding options to help settings support apprentice training.

If you need help recruiting for an apprentice in your setting or school, we can help! Speak to our recruitment team on +44 (0) 117 920 9428 or email enquiries@bestpracticenet.co.uk

Upskill your workforce

By using apprenticeships to upskill your existing staff, you are helping to fill key gaps in your business, improving staff retention and supporting their professional development.

Here at Best Practice Network, we support learners through our career pathway, developing their skill from Level 2 to Level 5.

Enrol your employees

Employers should contact Best Practice Network via enquiries@bestpracticenet.co.uk to reserve a place on the required programme.

We will then support you with gathering all necessary information, registering your Apprenticeship Service Account, funding applications and any necessary recruitment.



Early Years Practitioner (EYP) Level 2

The Level 2 Early Years Practitioner apprenticeship is a funded work-based training programme.

EYPs work under the guidance and supervision of an Early Years Educator, teacher or other suitably qualified professional in the Early Years Workforce supporting the planning and delivery of the educational programmes for children in the 0–5 age range.

The benefits

- ✔ Learn how to support and promote children's early education and development, contribute to the planning and the organisation of activities in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage, and support the collection of accurate and up-to-date records which identify children's individual needs, abilities and progress
- ✔ Develop effective and informed practice that safeguards and promotes the health, safety and welfare of children
- ✔ The apprenticeship is levy-funded, with an employer incentive payments available
- ✔ Apprentices receive a higher level of support with monthly tutor visits and taught sessions

Programme Structure



Learn more and apply at bestpracticenetwork.co.uk/EYP

For more information call **0117 920 9428** or email enquiries@bestpracticenetwork.co.uk

“I was looked after every step of the way by Best Practice. The tutor visits were the standout point of the course. I can’t wait to do the L3 course in the future and keep working my way up.”

Who is it for?

- An entry level work-based Early Years training programme, ideal for those wanting to enter a career as a Nursery Practitioner, Classroom Assistant or Pre-school Practitioner
- Suitable for either someone already working in or someone looking for a career in, an early years childcare and education setting

Entry requirements

- No age restrictions

Apprentices must have:

- Support from your employer and levy account holder
- Successful completion of screening interview
- Residency in the UK for the last three years

AT A GLANCE



Blended Training



This Course Awards

Early Years Practitioner Level 2,
NCFE Level 2 Diploma for the
Early Years Practitioner



Course Duration

Up to 14 months



Michelle Evans
Apprenticeship
Performance Manager

PROGRAMME LEAD

Michelle has been working in Early Years since 2011 and joined Best Practice Network 1 year ago. She has been able to use her vast experience in the sector to support apprentices.

“The level 2 will equip early years practitioners with early skills they need to succeed.”



Scan here to learn
more and apply.





Early Years Educator (EYE) Level 3

A funded work-based training programme in an Early Years setting.

Best Practice Network has developed this industry-leading programme that will deliver the knowledge base alongside the skills and behaviours an apprentice will attain in the workplace.

The benefits

- ✔ Learn how to support and promote children's early education and development, plan and provide effective care, teaching and learning that enables children to progress and prepares them for school
- ✔ Make accurate and productive use of assessment and develop effective and informed practice
- ✔ The apprenticeship is levy-funded, with an employer incentive payments available
- ✔ Counts towards EYFS level 3 staff:child ratios

Programme Structure



Learn more and apply at bestpracticenet.co.uk/EYE

For more information call **0117 920 9428** or email enquiries@bestpracticenet.co.uk

“The way the course was delivered was great. The tutor who was assigned to me supported my development and progression every step of the way and I can’t thank her enough!”

Who is it for?

- Suitable for either someone already working in or someone looking for a career in, an early years childcare and education setting
- Ideal for someone looking to pursue a career as an Early Years Educator, Nursery Teaching Assistant, Nursery Nurse, Supervisor, or Childminder

Entry requirements

- No age restrictions

Apprentices must have:

- GCSE's in English and Maths at Grade C (4) or above or able to achieve Level 2 English and Maths whilst on programme
- Successful completion of screening interview
- Support from your employer and levy account holder
- Residency in the UK for the last three years

EYE AT A GLANCE



Blended Training



This Course Awards

Early Years Educator Level 3.
NCFE Diploma for the Early Years Workforce (EYE). Award in Paediatric First Aid OR
Emergency Paediatric First Aid



Course Duration

Up to 18 months



Tracy Clement
Apprenticeship Director

PROGRAMME LEAD

Tracy is passionate about apprenticeships and the opportunities they bring for new and existing staff to gain new knowledge, skills and behaviours in the workplace.



Scan here to learn more and apply.





Early Years Lead Practitioner (EYLP) Level 5

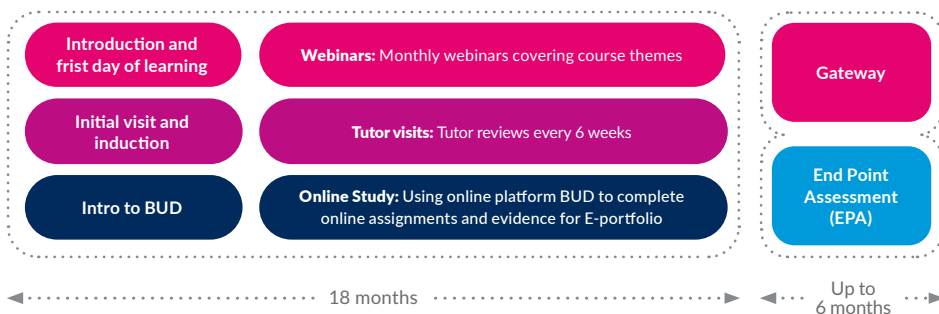
A funded work-based training programme focused on those working with and caring for children from birth to 8 years.

Building on our entry level programmes and using our industry expertise to build a programme for those wanting to further their knowledge and careers.

The benefits

- ✔ Learn how to support and promote children's early education and development, support the quality of learning and development at your setting and lead day-to-day practice at an operational level
- ✔ Engage with sector developments both locally and nationally and work in partnership with the key person, colleagues, parents and/or carers or other professionals
- ✔ The apprenticeship is levy-funded, with an employer incentive payments available

Programme Structure



Learn more and apply at bestpracticenet.co.uk/EYLP

For more information call **0117 920 9428** or email enquiries@bestpracticenet.co.uk

“The webinars are very detailed, and I like how I can email my tutor with any questions.”



Who is it for?

- Suitable for someone already working in, or aspiring to work in Early Years childcare, with responsibility for leading other practitioners or groups
- An active practitioner looking to advance their career and be an effective role model of play-based learning, supporting others in the development of their own practice and being responsible for the quality of the learning and development in their setting

Entry requirements

- No age restrictions

Apprentices must have:

- Level 3 Early Years Educator or Equivalent Qualifications/extensive experience in a leadership position
- GCSE's in English and Maths at Grade C (4) or above or able to achieve Level 2 English and Maths whilst on programme
- Successful completion of entry interview
- Support from your employer and levy account holder
- Residency in the UK for the last three years



Scan here to learn more and apply.

AT A GLANCE



Online Training



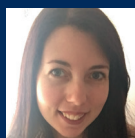
This Course Awards

Early Years Lead
Practitioner Level 5



Course Duration

Up to 24 months



Sarah Bishop
Apprenticeship
Performance Manager

PROGRAMME LEAD

Sarah has 8 years of experience working within the childcare sector focussing on early years and over 3 years as an Apprenticeship Trainer.

“The level 5 Early Years Lead Practitioner focusses on advancing practice, taking early years educators to the next level in their leadership, knowledge, skills and behaviours”





Early Years Initial Teacher Training (EYITT)

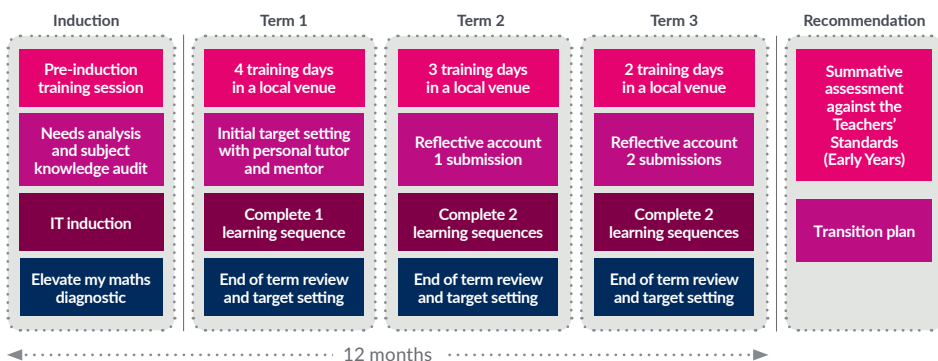
The only teacher training focused on the birth to five age range.

EYITT leads to Early Years Teacher Status (EYTS) and is designed for those who wish to specialise in early childhood development work with children across the birth to five age range.

The benefits

- ✔ As the leading EYITT provider in the country with a 100% pass rate, our course is proven to raise the quality of a setting's early years provision, be a core element of your team development, and improve children's life chances
- ✔ For graduate practitioners who are eligible for a place on the programme, an employer incentive of £7,000 is payable to the setting. This funding can be used for supply cover, mentoring and other costs associated with supporting the trainee during the programme

Programme Structure



Learn more and apply at bestpracticenetwork.co.uk/EYITT

For more information call 0117 920 9428 or email enquiries@bestpracticenetwork.co.uk

“I wanted to deepen my understanding of child development and make a positive and lasting impact on the children’s education experience.”



Who is it for?

- Graduate early years practitioners who may work in a range of settings across the birth to five sector, including nurseries, schools, home-based settings
- Graduates who want to join the early years sector
- Full-time undergraduates on Early Childhood Studies degree programmes

Entry requirements

- A degree on entry (from any area of study)
- GCSE Grade C or above (or recognised equivalent) in Maths, English and Science. If candidates do not have these qualifications then we can advise on completing an equivalency test instead



Scan here to learn more and apply.

AT A GLANCE



Placement in another setting



Online Training



This Course Awards
Early Years Teaching Status (EYTS)



Course Duration
Up to 12 months

Training Events
9 days



Helen Royston
EYITT Programme Lead

PROGRAMME LEAD

Helen has specialised in Early years for 18 years. She worked as an Early Years Teacher across a wide range of provision, including schools and Children’s centres. She started training to use her skills and expertise to help inspire Teachers of the future.

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Early Years SENCO Level 3

The Level 3 Early Years SENCO qualification is for a level 3 practitioner in a private, voluntary or independent setting.

It is also appropriate for Ofsted-registered childminders and Ofsted-registered childminder agencies. This is an important role to ensure the best possible educational outcomes are achieved for children with special educational needs and disabilities.

The benefits

Participants learn how to:

- ✔ Learn how to identify when SEN is occurring in children with EAL
- ✔ Explain how to actively engage the child and the child's parents/carers using the Assess, Plan, Do, Review process
- ✔ Explain what an effective support plan should include and why clear outcomes are important
- ✔ Accredited and fully funded by the Department for Education, Limited places available based on DfE eligibility criteria.

Programme Structure

Months 1 & 2

Unit 01

Roles and responsibilities of the Special Educational Needs Coordinator in the Early Years

Months 3 & 4

Unit 02

Strategies and techniques for supporting children and families

Online Taught sessions

Online Study Units

Learn more and apply at bestpracticenet.co.uk/early-years-SENCO

For more information call **0117 920 9428** or email enquiries@bestpracticenet.co.uk

“This is a crucial programme within our early years education recovery package, addressing the impact of the pandemic on the youngest and most disadvantaged children.”

Will Quince
Minister for School Standards

Who is it for?

- Ideal for Early Years SENCOs, or aspiring Early Years SENCOs
- Suitable for someone with a level 3 qualification in private, voluntary or independent settings, or Ofsted registered childminders or Ofsted registered childminder agencies

Entry requirements

- Must hold an existing Level 3 qualification and the support of an appropriate setting
- Maintained settings are not eligible for this programme

AT A GLANCE



Monthly Starts



Online Training



This Course Awards

Awards L3 EY SENCO



Course Duration

4 months



Sian Marsh
Early Years Director

PROGRAMME LEAD

Sian has specialised in early years education for the last 19 years and has worked with the team at BPN for over 10 years. She is experienced in developing blended programmes and currently manages teams delivering national training programmes in early years at all levels.



Scan here to learn more and apply.

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for Education



National Professional Qualification in Early Years Leadership (NPQEYL)

The NPQEYL is a professional development course, which has been designed with leaders and practitioners in mind.

It is designed to support early years leaders to develop expertise in leading high-quality education and care, as well as in effective staff and organisational management.

The benefits

- ✔ Establish an effective culture across the nursery
- ✔ Deliver a high-quality and ambitious curriculum that meets the needs of all your learners and ensures all children experience success
- ✔ Support staff to engage in effective professional development
- ✔ Manage resources effectively
- ✔ Work successfully with parents, services and other early years settings

Programme Structure

1. Introduction	3. Group seminars	5. Implementation
Introductory module and seminar for programme members to outline the programme.	Focused on applying and contextualising learning and an opportunity to share practice and collaborate.	Practice implementing a small improvement. Tightly contained, and focused on impact in school.
2. Self-directed study	4. Conferences	6. School visits and 1:1
Online learning focused on building core knowledge and interim tasks and practice, includes personalised pathways.	Twice during the programme. Opportunity to revisit and build on content from the curriculum, as well as collaboration.	Facilitate a visit to a different school/setting to allow programme members to observe and understand expertise in context.

Learn more and apply at bestpracticenetwork.co.uk/NPQEYL
 For more information call **0117 920 9428** or email enquiries@bestpracticenetwork.co.uk

“The NPQEYL is a really exciting opportunity to deliver meaningful change in your individual setting from creating an effective culture to aligning staff to the overall mission.”



Who is it for?

- Suitable for someone who is or is aspiring to be a manager of a Private, Voluntary and Independent nursery, headteacher of a school-based or maintained nursery, or a childminder with leadership responsibilities

Entry requirements

- A full and approved Level 3 Early Years qualification or higher
- The qualification should have valid, reliable assessment and awarding procedures and must include an element of assessed performance evidence
- If you do not hold a full and approved Level 3 Early Years qualification you will be asked to provide a minimum of 100 words (max 200) detailing your experience relating to Early Years, Childcare or Play work



Scan here to learn more and apply.

AT A GLANCE



Online Training



This Course Awards

NPQ in Early Years Leadership (NPQEYL)



Course Duration

18 months



Face-to-Face Events

2



Nicola Bostock-Hayes
Programme Lead

PROGRAMME LEAD

For 16 years Nicola has worked predominantly in secondary education and for the past 10 years on school senior leadership teams. She is passionate that children and young people are at the heart of all that we do within education and that educationalists have access to high-quality training to secure the best outcomes for all.

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How to Apply

STEP 1

Visit our Early Years page at bestpracticenet.co.uk/early-years

STEP 2

Select the webpage for the programme you would like to complete.

STEP 3

Click **Apply Now** to sign up! You will need to setup an account if you don't already have one.

STEP 4

It takes about 20 minutes to apply for one of our courses. Our friendly team are available to help you.

STEP 5

If you are applying for an apprenticeship our Early Years team will assist with accessing funding.



Learn more

0117 920 9428

enquiries@bestpracticenet.co.uk

bestpracticenet.co.uk



We can help with recruitment!

Let us match an applicant for your position.

Contact us if you have a vacancy.



Our Early Years advisors are here to help!

Funded by



Department for Education

