

EYITT Placements Overview

Trainee early years teachers need breadth and variety of experience in early years settings and schools, to enable them to meet all the Teachers' Standards (Early Years).

They need to teach children from different backgrounds, and across the 0 to 5 age range, as well as gaining experience of different approaches to teaching and to early years settings and school organisation and management.

Graduate Entry Route (GE)

The Department for Education requirements state that *trainees on the GE route need to do 120 days placement experience in at least two settings/schools*. One of the settings will act as your main setting where you will gain the majority of your experience. You will be expected to complete a second placement in a contrasting setting/school before returning to the main setting to complete your placement. This means that the bulk of your time on the programme will be workplace learning/placement experience. In addition (in a school-based placement) you need to spend time in Key Stage 1 & 2.

Placements will be organised through Best Practice Network – If you have suggestions for the placements, we will check they meet the necessary criteria and liaise on your behalf. You need to make yourself fully available for your placements – they must be your priority and you should aim to be available for at least 4 days a week.

The 120 days of placement that you will complete on the programme could work as follows:

Example One	Example Two
2 x 45 days placement blocks in the main setting.	3 x 25 days placement blocks in the main setting.
1 x 25 days school placement in Reception class.	1 x 40 days placement in Reception class.
1 x 5 days engagement in KS1 & 2	1 x 5 days engagement in KS1 & 2

**Other variations are fine as long as the 120 days requirement is fulfilled and the placement outside of the main setting is at least 30 days duration.*

If you have been accepted onto the course, then a personal tutor will be assigned to work with and support you throughout the programme. The BPN placement coordinator will liaise with you and your personal tutor to establish the best locations for your placements.

When making the arrangements, Best Practice Network will consider a range of factors (including the setting's capacity to mentor you).

- We will organise your placements to be held with our partnership settings. If you have a suggestion for a placement setting, it may be possible for you to be placed in the setting of your choice. We are happy for you to make suggestions, as it is possible for new settings to become partnership settings, however, please understand that it might not always be possible.
- The settings must have either Good or Outstanding from their last OFSTED inspection.

Funding for supporting GE trainees during placement

The placement will be paid £10 a day per trainee.

The setting would invoice for the entire amount and BPN would pay the fee in monthly instalments following compliance and quality checks to ensure the trainee has received their entitled mentor support.

Compliance and quality checks to ensure the trainee has received their full mentor support entitlement will include satisfactorily completed records of mentor observations and discussions each week.

*Payment will be suspended if a trainee defers or withdraws.

Please note: GEB contrasting placements do not qualify for the funding.

Graduate Employment Based Route (GEB)

Placement requirements depend on each GEB trainee's circumstances and ability to gain assessed experience across the 0-5 age range.

In practice, most GEB trainees (this includes childminders and employees of EY settings) need to undertake one or more placements to consolidate their experience across birth to five.

- All trainees are required to complete a placement in a school to include *20 days teaching systematic synthetic phonics and maths in a reception class and 5 days engagement with KS1/2.*
- A minimum of 25-30 days placement experience is required for trainees to gain full experience of the 0-5 years age range. *The placements will need to be conducted at a setting that differs from the trainee's employment setting.*
- The placements must be arranged in blocks of no less than two weeks, excluding the 5 days in KS1/KS2.
- Where the applicant is based in a school reception class, then babies, toddlers and pre-school placements are required, as well as engagement with KS1 and 2. The number of days in each age group will be determined based on the trainees' prior experience and needs.
- Further placement experience that is required to cover other age range requirements, e.g., babies may be of a shorter duration but must be sufficient to enable the trainee to complete a sequence of learning, be observed and make an impact demonstrating the Standards.

For example, a trainee who is working in a school setting that also covers pre-school could arrange their placements like the following:

Experience Needed	Duration
Babies and toddlers (separate setting).	20 days
Key Stage 1 & 2 (employment setting).	5 days

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licants who are employed as a nanny, are not required to follow the learning and development requirements of the EYFS within their setting. They will need to apply for the GE route and would therefore need to be available for 120 days of placement.

It is the responsibility of GEB trainees to source their own placements. We will assist and support where required including seeking advice from your Personal Tutor. The settings must be either Good or Outstanding at their last Ofsted inspection.

Further information regarding the placements will be given at the start of the programme within the Welcome Packs. Alternatively, you can always email eyitt@bestpracticenetwork.co.uk and our office team will respond to your enquiry as soon as possible.