

# CORE MODULES: FdA Early Years, Playwork and Education

You must take modules worth 120 credits at each level of the course. Each module is worth a specified number of credits.

## Year one for full-time students (Level 4)

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### Learning and Development (30 credits)

- *This module introduces you to your own learning as well as children's and links to existing theory. It explores the difference between learning and development and considers the influence of adults on children's learning. The key topics will be: human development, understanding learning, study skills and the roles of parents and key persons.*

### Researching Childhood (30 credits)

- *You'll be introduced to essential research skills relating to children and learn about the importance of linking theory to your practice. The aim is for you to develop skills in child observation and apply general research methods to childhood studies. You'll be expected to work in small groups and share your experience and ideas with your class. The key topics will be: research methods, ethics involved in working with children, types of observation and studying children.*

### Play, Health and Wellbeing (30 credits)

- *Nowadays the link between lifestyle factors such as activity levels, diet and health is becoming increasingly clear, and greater importance is being placed on the need for children to access outdoor environments. It is crucial to get children making choices and enjoying a healthy balanced diet and active lifestyle from as young an age as possible. Play is recognised as being crucial to children's physical, mental, social and emotional well-being, yet opportunities and encouragement for free play are becoming increasingly limited. You'll consider children's well-being and how it relates to their rights. You'll learn how well-being can be supported through healthy eating, regular physical activity and a play based environment. The key topics will be: well-being, healthy eating and exercise, outdoor play and forest schools.*

### Work Base Learning 1 (30 credits)

- *You will identify a specific aspect of practice to develop. Using an 'Action Inquiry' model, you will then plan a change strategy, implement the change and evaluate its effectiveness. This model of personal professional development will enable you to understand your workplace by observing, developing and carrying out an action plan to effect change and improvement in practice. You will develop valuable workplace skills in IT, communication, presentation, reflection and analysis.*

## Final year for full-time students (Level 5)

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### Safeguarding Children (30 credits)

- *This module will enable students to develop an informed understanding of the complexities inherent, both past and present, in the notions of risk, child abuse, protection and safeguarding. Through engagement with relevant and diverse literature students will develop their awareness of the challenges posed by these issues for children's lives. The literature will be examined in the wider context of children's welfare. The different theories which explain why child abuse occurs and how they influence provision for safeguarding children will be examined in the context of current legislation and procedural frameworks. Students will be expected to show understanding of the range of provision available to support children's needs.*

### Supporting Children's Learning (30 credits)

- *This module is about the ways in which children play and learn and the means by which adults can mediate and support their experience. You'll discuss pedagogic strategies and learn about the importance of creative practices and children learning through play. Different early years' curricula (Steiner Waldorf, Montessori method, Experiential Education, High Scope, Reggio Emilia and TeWhariki) will be compared and contrasted with England's curriculum. The key topics will be: early years' curricula, learning through play, creative learning and pedagogy as well as documenting care and learning.*

## **Embracing Diversity (30 credits)**

- *In this module, you'll discuss disability, differences and special educational needs in relation to debates on inclusion and exclusion, needs and rights, and the importance of seeing every child as an individual. You'll explore different cultural practices to enable an empathetic understanding of how to help all children feel welcome in a setting. Theories for this module are drawn from different backgrounds such as psychology, sociology and education. The key topics will be: history and language of inclusion, cultural differences and EAL, family structures and lifestyles, policy and legislation as well as special educational needs.*

## **Work Base Learning 2 (30 credits)**

- *You will identify a specific aspect of practice to develop. Using an 'Action Inquiry' model, you will then plan a change strategy, implement the change and evaluate its effectiveness. This model of personal professional development will enable you to understand your workplace by observing, developing and carrying out an action plan to effect change and improvement in practice. You will develop valuable workplace skills in IT, communication, presentation, reflection and analysis.*