

LEVEL 3
EXTENDED DIPLOMA
CHILDREN'S PLAY AND
LEARNING DEVELOPMENT



INTRODUCTION TO CPLD

CPLD Level 3 courses are part of the new suite of BTEC qualifications.

The Extended Diploma course is studied over 2 years and is equivalent to 3 A levels. The course is designed so that each week 3 days are in college and 2 days are in placement in a variety of early years' settings.

The course is graded as L3 Pass, L3 Merit, L3 Distinction and L3 Distinction *. UCAS points are the equivalent to A level grades E, C, A and A*.

Students will also undertake a paediatric first aid course as this is now a requirement when working with children.

Why choose CPLD?

CPLD is an exciting subject that is suitable for any student who is interested in working with children and in developing their knowledge in:

- Child development from birth - 8 years
- Numeracy and literacy and communication
- Health and Safety and Safeguarding
- Play and learning
- A range of further specialist units designed to support those working with children

OUR APPROACH TO TEACHING AND LEARNING

The department has excellent resources that will enable students to experience a wide range of learning opportunities.

- There is strong emphasis on practical work – the students will develop their ability to plan and implement age appropriate activities in conjunction with the EYFS and National Curriculum.
- Skills can be learnt and practiced in the purposely-designed classroom prior to consolidating them with children in placement
- We use a range of quality learning materials and resources that reflect those used in settings as well as online support and learning and materials available to all students.
- Placement is a vital part of the course where students can put theory in to practice gaining important skills of the profession

- All staff have a qualification and background in an early years' area so have a wealth of experience to share through their teaching
- Staff have a flexible teaching approach but understand the need to complete homework, respect deadlines and set high standards

YEAR 1 TOPICS & ASSESSMENT

Students will be assessed by coursework, controlled assessment and exam

Written exam

Written examination: 1 hours 30 minutes

One re-sit opportunity is allowed.

Topics include:

- Child developmental milestones 0-8 years
- Theories of development
- Application of theory to practice
- Factors affecting development

Controlled assessment - Development of Children's Communication, Literacy and Numeracy Skills

Students are provided with a task booklet that will include a case study of a fictional early years setting and a fictional case study of one or more learners from early years' settings. Students will have three activities to complete based on these case studies.

Students are given time for planning and preparation before writing up the task book. Students are given supervised time to complete the write up of the task book

Coursework (Extended Diploma)

Approximately 5 further units will be covered in year one. These will be coursework units that are assessed internally by College staff.

YEAR 2 TOPICS & ASSESSMENT

Students on the Extended Diploma will be assessed by controlled assessment and coursework.

Controlled assessment - Enquiries into current research in early years' practice
Students are given an article and asked to carry out their own secondary research. They will be required to use the understanding of research methodologies and to

apply their knowledge of early years' educational issues. students will have period of time for planning and preparation before writing up of the task book under supervised conditions.

Coursework

A range of mandatory and specialist Internally marked course work units are taught over the second year. Many of these will require work to be carried out in an early years setting.

Throughout the 2 years in placement, students will also build a practical evidence portfolio.

ENTRY AND SKILL REQUIREMENTS

What are the entry requirements for CPLD?

- Minimum 5 GCSE's at grade C or equivalent including English Language and Maths
- It is desirable that students have some experience with children
- All students require a DBS check

Placement forms a large proportion of the course so it is important that you are sure that this is a subject that you know you will enjoy and participate in fully.

Progression

The Extended Diploma with the Early Years Educator allows students to progress straight in to the workplace as an early years' practitioner, teaching assistant, nanny or hospital nursery nurse. However as it is equivalent to 3 A levels, it may also be used to continue in education undertaking a degree in Early Childhood Studies, Primary Teaching, Paediatric Nursing or Social Work.

Each year some students will have successful applications to the renowned Norland College in Bath.

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