Early Years
Career progression map
Why consider entering Early Years as a career?

Study at Higher Education in disciplines such as:
• Early Years Teaching
• Youthwork
• Playwork
• Social work
• Early Childhood Studies.
*Entry to pathway from A Level/AG and other Technical routes

Professional Training in Education, Social Care and Health
• Assessor
• Tutor
• Lecturer
• Early Years Leader in schools/colleges/university

Manager
• Graduate practitioner
• Early Years Senior Practitioner
• Teaching Apprenticeships

Deputy Manager

Support role in schools

Residential Childcare Worker (Level 3)

Early Years Practitioner (Level 2) employed in a range of settings and service provision

Early Years Practitioner Level 3 (Early Years Educator) employed in a range of settings and service provision with children

Homebased Provision:
• Childminder
• Nanny

Option for specialist roles, for example:
• Special Education Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO)
• Safeguarding
• Special Education Needs and Disability Lead (SEND)
• Physical Activity and Nutrition Co-ordinator (PANCO)
• Literacy or Maths Leader.
Other specialist roles may include pedagogical approaches.

This Childcare and Early Years careers progression map has been designed by Early Years experts and stakeholders and supported by the Department for Education (DfE). The DfE wish to express their thanks to everyone who has been involved. It is intended for use by the Childcare and Early Years sector, careers advisers and anyone who is considering a career in the sector.

To check that the qualification you are interested in is approved by the Department for Education visit www.gov.uk/guidance
To find out more about being an Apprentice visit www.getingofar.gov.uk