



## SCHOOL LINKS

*Skills for Work*

**Early Education & Childcare**

*National 4 & 5*

Your school has joined with North East Scotland College to offer you the opportunity to undertake a vocational qualification as part of your school studies. This information leaflet is designed to answer your questions and explain a bit about the course you will be taking.

## WHAT IS IT?

Early Education and Childcare is a well established industry with a number of qualifications available ranging from National Qualifications and SVQ's to university degrees. By completing this course you will be developing important skills which could support you in undertaking further training and qualifications on leaving school, or prepare you for seeking employment.

Skills for Work Early Education and Childcare is a National Course which will give you a broad introduction to the Early Education and Childcare industry whilst working towards a national recognised qualification.

## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

During this course you will:

- Gain an understanding of the importance of play in working with children
- Gain an insight into child development and its value in working with children
- Develop an awareness of health and safety issues relevant to a range of activities
- Develop core and essential skills including communication and working with others
- Develop industry related good practice
- Be prepared for further learning opportunities, study and training opportunities in the area of Early Education and Childcare.



## HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

You will be taught by means of and practical based activities and classroom based theory lessons in one of the North East Scotland College campuses by a College Lecturer, or within your school. You will study by means of individual research, group activities, practical activities, viewing videos and through course hand outs and text books provided by the College.

Throughout the course you will be offered an opportunity to review and identify how your skills and knowledge are developing.

You will be expected to demonstrate:

- Regular attendance and good timekeeping
- A professional attitude and an interest in Early Education and Childcare
- A willingness and commitment to learning
- Planning, preparation and research skills
- An ability to establish and maintain good working relationships with others
- Problem solving skills.

## WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The National 4 course is made up of the following four units:

- Child Development & Health
- Play in Early Education and Childcare
- Working in Early Education and Childcare
- Care of Children.

The National 5 course is made up of the following four units:

- Child Development
- Play in Early Education and Childcare
- Working in Early Education and Childcare
- Parenting.

## WHAT DO I NEED?

Whilst you are taking part in the course you will be required to always:

- Be ready to start your class at the given time
- Adhere to the School Pupils Code of Commitment.

Mobile phones, eating and drinking are not permitted in the classroom. Drinking water is available from water dispensers in the corridors within the College buildings.



## HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

To achieve the course award you must attend regularly and successfully complete the all units. Assessment will be based on test and case studies along with project work and a folio.

This course will show on your final SQA Exam Certificate as a National 4 or National 5 award.

## WHAT CAN I DO AFTER THIS COURSE?

This course may provide candidates with opportunities to progress to:

- Employment opportunities within the Childcare Industry
- Further or Higher Education
- Introduction to Early Education at Level 4
- Playwork and Education at Level 5.

## WHO DO I SPEAK TO ABOUT THIS COURSE?

If you are interested in this course and want to find out more about it you should speak to your Guidance Teacher at school.

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It is expected that pupils enrolling on this course will remain enrolled with their school for the duration of the course. Therefore this course is **not** suitable for those school pupils planning on leaving school at Christmas.



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