

Faculty of Education and Humanities

Early Years Foundation Degree

2018-2019

Welcome

Booklet



Welcome to the University of Northampton

A very warm welcome to Early Years Foundation Degree. We are delighted that you have chosen to study with us. Our programme is designed to support you in making a real difference to the lives of children and their families, and to further equip you for a stimulating and rewarding career in the early years. As this is a work based route we hope that the combined approach enables you to bring together knowledge, understanding and practice to further support the development of the children in your setting.

Our friendly and highly experienced multi-professional staff team are eager to support you on your personal and academic journey. We hope you have a happy, successful and rewarding time studying at the University.

We hope the following information will support you in preparing to join us in September and if you have any questions please contact:

Peter Goy peter.goy@northampton.ac.uk

Your Timetable

In Year One you will study the following modules:

EYS1110	Professional and Academic Development
EYS1111	Understanding Children's Development
EYS1112	Health and Community

In year 2 you will study:

EYS2109	Professional and Academic Development
EYS2110	Promoting Children's Learning and Development
EYS2111	Children's Rights and Safeguarding
EYS2112	Diversity, Disadvantage and Inclusive Practice

All modules are compulsory however in order to gain your degree there are certain specifications which must be met:

EYS1110	- Students must pass the PDP dialogue to pass the module overall.
EYS1111	- Students must pass the Case Study assignment to pass the module overall.
EYS2109	- Students must pass the PDP dialogue to pass the module overall.
EYS2110	- Students must pass the Practical Project to pass the module overall.

How will your week be structured?

Induction day: Tuesday 11th September

Getting to know the tutors, getting to know each other and finding your way around.

Session 1: Tuesday 18th September

This is the first Professional and Academic Development (EYS1110) session during which we put all aspects of the course into context personally, professionally and academically.

Your formal timetable will be available before you join us and will show specific times for formal sessions and rooms.

The timetabled University day will be 9am to 5 pm however the face to face sessions will usually be between 9 - 11am and 1- 3.00. There will be supported, collaborative (group learning activities) at other times of the day. The flexibility in the schedule is to allow you time to access the Library and School Experience Resources area or to meet with your study group.

You will have group work, support sessions and tutorials built around these face to face sessions with the module teaching team.

How will you learn?

You will learn through a range of experiences, at University and in association with your setting, which blend together to ensure you develop and maintain academic and professional skills and a strong value base.

Each module is made up of 'Learning Events' which involve a whole range of activities that take place before, during and after formal sessions on the days you are in University.

You will have additional reading, online activities and work for your assignments to do outside the taught sessions. Most of the activities will be directly related to your work and it is expected that you learn to embed course work into your practice so that the two become inter-woven.

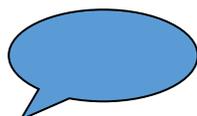
Reflection

Reflecting on practice is central to the course and you will use a range of reflective models to analyse day to day routines and activities alongside literature and theorybased research.

Support

You will all have a Personal Academic Tutor based at the University as well as the module leaders who will support you with specific module related issues or concerns. The PAT is your first 'go to person' if you have any questions or need support. The PATs meet with the Year Leader on a regular basis and you can contact the Year Leader or Programme Leader.

Each teaching group will have an elected representative who will regularly gather and discuss the feedback from the 'student voice'.



Mentors

It is expected that your setting will nominate someone to be a 'Work-based Mentor' taking on an informal, yet important role, as someone you can bounce ideas off, support you in your work-based activities and provide feedback related to your impact on the children and the setting. Former students are often more than willing to take on this role. We would like to think that settings see themselves as 'learning partners' in order to enhance your overall learning and professional development experience.

Reading

There are a range of books that will provide useful background reading to support your learning and to support your assignments. The books below are just a suggestion to get you started:

Cottrell, S. (2008) (Rev. 3rd Edition) *The study skills handbook*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Lindon, J. (2012) *Reflective practice and early years professionalism*. 2nd Ed Abingdon: Hodder Education. (ebook)

Hayes, C., Daly, J., Duncan, M., Gill, R., and Whitehouse, A. (2014) *Developing as a reflective early years professional: a thematic approach*. Northwich: Critical Publishing Ltd.

Palaiologou, I. (2013) *The early years foundation stage: theory and practice*. 2nd ed. London: Sage.

Musgrave, J., Savin-Baden, M. and Stobbs, N. (2017) *Studying for your early years degree: skills and knowledge for becoming an effective practitioner*. Northwich: Critical Publishing Ltd.

Waller, T. and Davis, G. (eds.) (2014) *An introduction to early childhood a multidisciplinary approach*. 3rd ed. London: Sage.

What to do before you start the Programme?

Being a Learner

As some of you may not have studied for some time we would suggest you spend some time before you join us preparing yourself for learning in Higher Education.

There are certain differences that usually become apparent such as understanding Harvard referencing – the system you will be required to adopt when writing assignments. You will, however, receive support and guidance with developing your academic writing!

Reading and interpreting the subject area is another important aspect of the course – endeavour to read a chapter or two from one of the books from the reading list and note down your thoughts

[Study Skills for Academic Success](#) course is designed to help you develop key skills including academic writing and references.

Activities to get you started!

Observe other practitioners in your setting and make a list of positive interactions between the adults and the children – think about WHY you think these are positive and note that down alongside your observation.

What other students have said about the course...

"Doing this course has increased my confidence in the work place – I feel I can back up my ideas with theory which means I get listened to more"

"When I started this course I thought I knew a lot about Early Years but now I realise there is so much more to know – and I seem to have more questions!"

"I haven't looked back since doing this course and just want to keep on learning"

"When I started I didn't think I could get a degree – but here I am!"

"Our group is great – everyone supports everyone else"

New knowledge – greater impact – excellent practice!

Wonderment!

Confidence

Independence

Knowledge and expertise



Fun

Learning

Progression

Impact



Looking forward to welcoming you in September!

Welcome to Year One of the Early Years FD Programme

We are looking forward to seeing you on 11 September 2018 for your Foundation Degree induction/ first session in the **Senate Building at Waterside Campus (Rooms SN304 & SN305)**. The draft format for that day is as follows:

Draft Programme of Events (Please note this timetable and room allocation may be subject to change)

Session Time	Activity
9:00 – 10:00	Welcome and Getting to Know You (Personal Tutors)
10:00- 10:30	Enrol & Coffee
10:30- 11:30	Course Overview and Student Rep Selection
11:30-12:00	Coffee Break & Reflection
12:00-13:00	Library Support Session (Hannah Woods)
13:00-14:00	Lunch Break
14:00-15:00	Orientation Tour
15:00-17:00	Assignment One Preparation EYS 1110

The formal teaching continues at 9:00 am on Tuesday 18 September with EYS 1110. The last taught session of the autumn term is Tuesday 11 December 2018.

We hope you have an enjoyable and successful year with us.

The Early Years FD Team

Contact: peter.goy@northampton.ac.uk