

## Introducing Your Degree:

The Foundation Degree for experienced Early Years practitioners is an exciting award that will lead to an excellent professional qualification. It has a strong work based element and is designed to enable you to relate theory to practice.

## What Will I Achieve?:

The award is a DfES Sector Endorsed Foundation Degree. Students successfully completing a foundation degree may be eligible to progress to the third year of an Honours degree programme, subject to availability. If there are insufficient places, then applicants will be subject to a selection process.

## Course Content:

(A brief description of subjects/areas covered in the 1st & 2nd year)

**The course is modular and you will study the following modules:**

### **The Child and Childhoods (40 credits)**

This module is concerned with the differing views and experiences of children and childhoods both locally and globally and it aims to provide you with a breadth of knowledge and understanding of the historical, sociological, and global perspectives of childhood. You will also explore the influences which shape childhood experience.

### **Making Learning Visible (40 credits)**

In this module you will engage with the theoretical and research perspectives underpinning how children develop and learn holistically, including an emphasis on the centrality of play. You will further explore aspects on the identification of effective assessment and planning through listening to the voice of the child.

### **The Reflective Practitioner: The Environment (20 credits)**

This work-based module will introduce you to reflective skills and practice. Through a process of analysis and recommendation, you will reflect upon your own work-based environment and consider the following aspects that are crucial in providing an effective learning environment for children:

### **The Reflective Practitioner: Celebrating Diversity (20 credits)**

This work-based module will enable you to develop your reflective skills and practice. Through a process of analysis and recommendation, you will reflect upon your own setting in light of inclusive practice.

### **Holistic Development and Learning (40 credits)**

This module is concerned with holistic child development and learning and aims to develop your knowledge of child development, learning and what constitutes effective pedagogy and practice. You will explore issues related to child health such as emotional well being and physical health. The concept of the unique child will be considered in aspects such as supporting children who speak English as an additional language and aiding transitions. Alternative approaches to learning will be investigated such as Steiner Education, Forest Schools and home schooling and you will be encouraged to visit a range of other settings to expand your knowledge of practice and provision elsewhere.

### **Working Together (40 credits)**

In this module you will use current theory, research and recommended reading to explore the issues and skills required for working together across the sector to ensure high quality provision and outcomes for young children and their families. You will be researching the development of services and support in this area, including deconstructing national and local legislation and policies. This will involve reflection and critical analysis of your own settings' practice in working together, which includes partnerships with families, children's services and social care and health agencies.

### **Reflective Practitioner: Action Research (40 credits)**

In this module, you will carry out a piece of action research based in your setting. The precise topic for the research will be chosen by you but will be discussed with and approved by the college tutor. You will be introduced to theoretical perspectives and a range of approaches to research in education. Appropriate skills, knowledge and attitudes will be explored to enable you to conduct the research effectively. Through reading and investigation of a range of sources you will develop an in depth knowledge and understanding of the chosen topic. You will use ICT as part of your research project.



### Study Programme and Assessment:

You will attend college for 7 hours per week (one morning and one evening tbc). You will be assessed using a variety of methods including portfolios, essays, presentations and reports. Study skills and IT input will support taught modules.

### Entry Requirements:

- Appropriate level 3 qualification in EY, Childcare or Playwork ( ie A levels or vocational qualifications)
- At least 600 hours working experience in the sector
- Currently working in the sector either part time or full time for at least 12 hours
- CRB checks must meet Bath Spa University requirements
- You will need to attend an interview which will include verbal questions and written work.

### APEL:

Accrediting of prior (experiential) learning may be considered. Applications will be considered on an individual basis.

### Funding:

National Tuition fees apply. You may be eligible for funding through local training providers (e.g. Swindon Sure Start, Wiltshire Bright Horizons). Student loans and bursaries may also be available for you. [www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance](http://www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance)

### UCAS Information:

You need to complete an online UCAS application to accompany the New College application form [www.ucas.ac.uk](http://www.ucas.ac.uk)

Information required for completion of UCAS form:

**Institution Code name:** BASPA  
**Institution Code:** B20  
**Course Code:** X310  
**Campus Code:** L ( for New College)

**COURSE LEADER:** Dawn Evans ([dawn.evans@newcollege.ac.uk](mailto:dawn.evans@newcollege.ac.uk))  
Tel 01793 611470 ext 6300

**ENQUIRIES:** Dawn Hardy ([dawn.hardy@newcollege.ac.uk](mailto:dawn.hardy@newcollege.ac.uk))  
Tel 01793 732807

