

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	FdA Children’s Care, Learning and Development
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 5
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	None
Credit Structure ²	240 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Full-time and Part-time
Standard Length of Course ³	2 years full-time
Intended Award	FdA Children’s Care, Learning and Development
Named Exit Awards	CertHE Children’s Care, Learning and Development
Entry Requirements ⁴	Typical Offer: 80 UCAS tariff points (or equivalent) Relevant employment or voluntary placement for the duration of the course Any offer of a place will be subject to a satisfactory enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check
Delivering Institution(s)	University of Suffolk at East Coast College (Lowestoft)
UCAS Code	X315

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the FdA Children’s Care, Learning and Development course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2017-18 academic year.⁵

Course Summary

The Foundation Degree in Children’s Care, Learning and Development is an exciting programme aimed at those students working, or wishing to work, with children aged 0-13 years. Links between theory and practice will be explored as well as the key issues that impact on children’s development. The changing view of childhood will also be studied as well as the implications of safeguarding for children and practitioners. The student’s own role in the education of children will be examined and how this influences positive outcomes for all children in a constantly changing landscape. Applications are welcome from those working within the childcare sector and from students who may not have child care experience but wish to enter this field. A voluntary placement is required for those not already working in a childcare setting. For those students who successfully complete the Foundation degree, and who are interested in progressing within childcare can progress onto the BA (Hons) Children’s Care, Learning and Development. The course is suitable as a

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#).

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#)

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

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pathway to primary school teaching although you must also achieve GCSE Mathematics, English and Science.

Course Aims

- To develop and enhance the knowledge and critical understanding of children's development
- To develop and enhance the application of theory to practice through work based learning and reflection
- To explore develop and enhance the skills of supporting children's development and learning
- To develop the skills of an independent learner
- To develop knowledge and critical understanding of legislative frameworks and their application to practice
- To develop and enhance awareness of diversity, rights and the inclusion agenda
- To develop awareness of research methodologies and the application to practice

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the FdA Children's Care, Learning and Development course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 5 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA).⁶

Knowledge and Understanding

1. Demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of theories of children's development
2. Demonstrate an awareness of research methodologies and the application to practice

Mental or Cognitive Skills

3. Demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of legislative frameworks and their application to practice
4. Demonstrate the awareness of diversity, rights and the inclusion agenda
5. Demonstrate an awareness of the theories of social construction and the child's position within society

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

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Subject specific and Practical Skills

6. Demonstrate the exploration and enhancement of the appropriate values and beliefs for working in the Children's workforce
7. Demonstrate the development and enhancement of the application of theory to practice through work based learning and reflection
8. Demonstrate the development of the skills of an independent learner

Key Skills

9. Demonstrate a range of employability skills

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmarks:

- Social Policy and Administration (2007)
- Psychology (2007)
- Sociology (2007)
- Early Childhood Studies (2007)
- Education Studies (2007)

Course Structure

The FdA Children's Care, Learning and Development comprises modules at levels 4 and 5.

Module Specifications for each of these modules are included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷
Level 4			
	Child Protection and Safeguarding Issues	20	R
	Supporting Children's Development	40	R
	Academic and Personal Development	20	R
	Diversity, Inclusion and Rights and Implication for Practice	20	R
	Emergent Literacies and Creativity	20	R
Level 5			
	Children in Society I	20	R
	Children in Society II	20	R
	Resource Based Learning and Development	40	R
	Negotiated Research Project	20	M
	Research Methods	20	M

⁷ Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#)

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Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a FdA Children's Care, Learning and Development. Students who leave the course early may be eligible for a CertHE Children's Care, Learning and Development on successful completion of 120 credits.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at the University of Suffolk at East Coast College (Lowestoft). Students studying full-time on FdA Children's Care, Learning and Development are likely to have approximately 7 contact hours per week. The contact hours will be a mix of lectures and seminars. Students are expected to be in suitable work in the sector or in a voluntary placement working with children. Students should undertake 20 hours a week of work placement for the two semesters or 15 hours a week if they work all year with children. Students will need to arrange any voluntary placements themselves and will need to have a mentor in the work place or placement. Full time students will normally be expected to undertake 10-15 hours of independent study in an average week, but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course overall will be mostly coursework (including essays, reports, presentations and portfolios) with a single exam at level five.

Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute.

Course Costs

Students undertaking FdA Children's Care, Learning and Development will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK/EU	£8,220 per year
Part-time UK/EU	£1,337 per 20 credit module
Full-time International	£10,080 per year
Part-time International	£1,680 per 20 credit module

The cost of the DBS is the responsibility of the student or the placement.

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

There will no additional costs to the students other than for the usual stationery supplies. The use of a computer with internet access is an essential part of this course.

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).