

Become an Early Years Practitioner

with the Early Years Practitioner Level 2 Apprenticeship.



EYP AT A GLANCE

Course Duration: Up to 14 months

- ✓ Blended training
- ✓ Tutor on-site visits
- ✓ Entry level qualification into Early Years, 0–5 years
- ★ Early Years Practitioner Level 2, NQUAL Level 2 Diploma for the Early Years Practitioner

“It has been an interesting course and the support from my apprenticeship tutor has been brilliant.”

Early Years Apprentice

About

The Level 2 Early Years Practitioner apprenticeship is a funded work-based training programme.

EYPs work under the guidance and supervision of an Early Years Educator, teacher or other suitably qualified professional in the Early Years Workforce supporting the planning and delivery of the educational programmes for children in the 0–5 age range.

This apprenticeship is suitable if you are looking to pursue a career in Early Years childcare as an Early Years Practitioner, Nursery Practitioner or Classroom Assistant.

What will I be learning?

The course is delivered over 12 months, including 1:1 taught lessons, tutor visits and coursework.



How will I be learning?

The majority of tuition and support for this programme is delivered on a one-to one basis with your apprenticeship tutor in the workplace. There will also be a blended approach including virtual classrooms, webinars, work-based tasks and online assignments. We use an online platform that helps you learn the topics and skills, reflect on your practice and build your portfolio.

Reviews

You will have reviews and support from your tutor every month, either by a visit to your setting or online. Your employer/mentor will be an integral part of these reviews.

Curriculum themes

The key themes of the course will focus on developing knowledge, behaviour and skills to deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage.

There are 3 main learning themes:

- Theme 1** Health and well-being
- Theme 2** Support care routine for babies and young children
- Theme 3** Equality, diversity, inclusive practice and SEND

These will be delivered over 1:1 taught lessons with your tutor, and coursework to complete online for your E-portfolio.

Off-the-job training

For the apprenticeship, a certain amount of your working hours should be focused on gaining new learning.

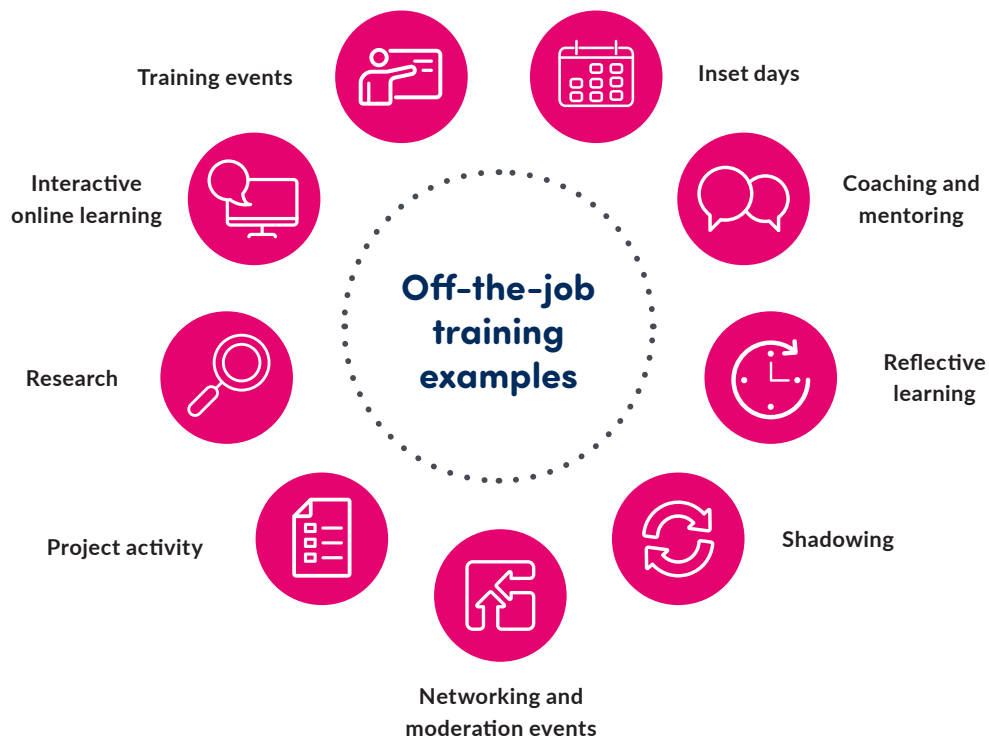
The amount will be dependent on your contracted hours per week. Please see the table for more information.

See below for more examples.

Contract hours

Off-the-job training

30 hours or more	Average of 6 hours per week
Less than 30 hours	20% of working hours and the programme length will be extended accordingly
Term time only contract	More than 6 hours per week



Functional Skills

If you have not secured a grade 4 (C) or above (or equivalent) in maths and English GCSE, you will be required to complete Functional Skills at level 1 in:

- **English** – reading, writing, speaking and listening
- **Maths** – calculator with a non-calculator section

You will be supported on a one-to-one basis by your apprenticeship tutor to complete these as quickly as possible using a range of training materials to best suit you.



Gateway

On programme completion, you, your employer and apprenticeship tutor will meet to agree you are ready for your End Point Assessment.

This is also a chance for your tutor to help with any questions you have about the assessment, and make sure you are confident and happy to proceed.

End Point Assessment (EPA)

The EPA is conducted by an external company.

The assessment period is for up to 2 months, but can be quickly achieved.

- Assessment 1 – professional discussion through your portfolio
- Assessment 2 – multiple choice quiz



What do I need to apply?

You must be 16 or over and meet these points to apply.

UK residency for 3+ years.

Employed in an Early Years setting. We can help you find a placement.

Funding agreed with the apprenticeship account holder. Support is available.

Funding

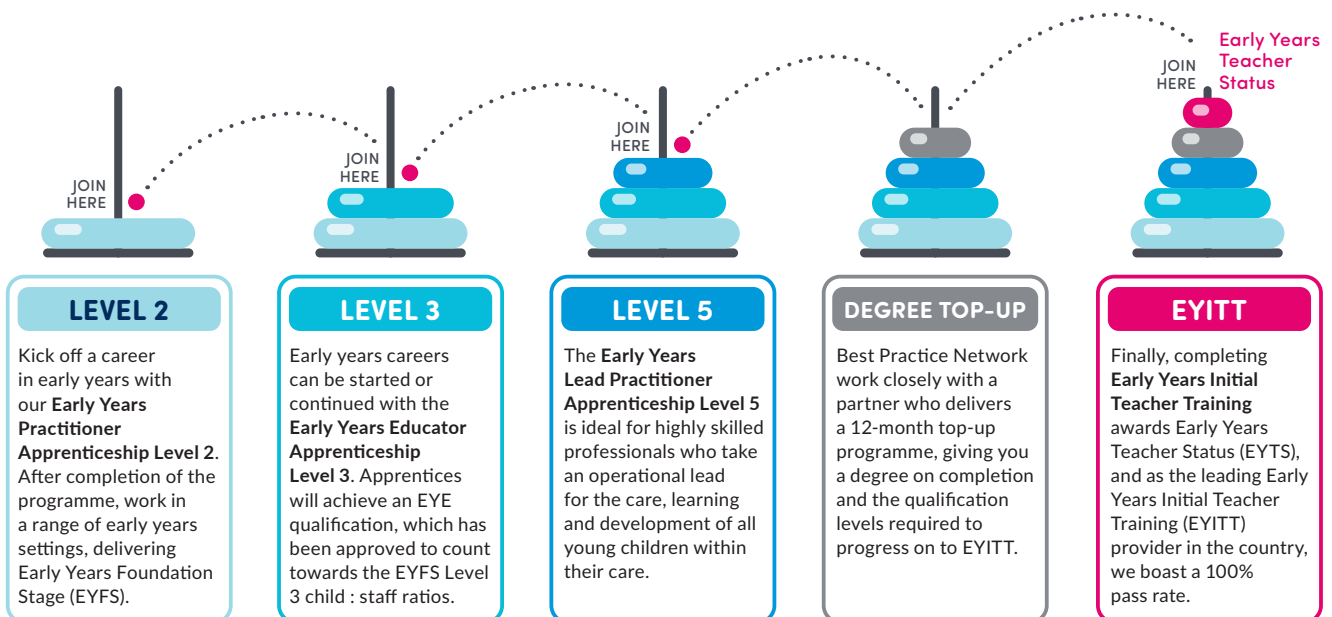
As an apprentice, you will not have to pay any money towards your course. You will need the support from your setting, who can access funds from the English apprenticeship levy fund. Best Practice Network can help your employer with information and support if needed to apply for these funds.

How to apply

To apply, you should complete the application via the [programme page](#) on our website. Our team will be in touch to guide you through the next steps. You will need to upload proof of any existing qualifications and complete a short maths and English initial assessment.

Where do I go next?

The Early Years Practitioner Level 2 is equivalent to a NVQ 2. From here you can progress to the Early Years Educator Level 3 apprenticeship and do further training to reach Early Years Teacher Status.



For employers – how apprenticeships could benefit your setting



Hiring an apprentice

You can employ apprentices at different levels, from school leavers or recent graduates to people who wish to advance in their careers or change careers altogether.

The government offers a range of funding options to help settings support apprentice training.

If you need help recruiting for an apprentice in your setting or school, we can help! Speak to our recruitment team on +44 (0) 117 920 9428 or email enquiries@bestpracticenet.co.uk

What is the levy fund?

The English apprenticeship levy fund is controlled by the Department for Education and was created as a long-term funding solution for companies to hire and train apprentices.

Our apprenticeship programmes qualify for funding from the English apprenticeship levy fund. Best Practice Network provides support to candidates and their employers to access this funding.

For guidance on how the funding routes apply to your setting, speak to one of our apprenticeship experts on +44 (0) 117 920 9428 or email enquiries@bestpracticenet.co.uk

Enrol your employees

Employers should contact Best Practice Network via enquiries@bestpracticenet.co.uk to reserve a place on the required programme.

We will then support you with gathering all necessary information, registering your Apprenticeship Service Account, funding applications and any necessary recruitment.

Upskill your workforce

By using apprenticeships to upskill your existing staff, you are helping to fill key gaps in your business, improving staff retention and supporting their professional development.

Here at Best Practice Network, we support learners through our career pathway, developing their skill from Level 2 to Level 5.

£ Funding routes

If your setting contributes to the apprenticeship levy fund

Levy paying employers can access their fund contributions through their **Apprenticeship Service Account**. You can use this service to manage the funds you have available for apprenticeship training in England.

If your setting does not contribute to the apprenticeship levy fund

You pay 5% towards the cost of the training for your apprentice. The remaining 95% will be paid by the government.

Apprenticeship levy transfer

Employers with unspent funds can transfer up to 25% of that contribution to another employer. That means you can benefit from the levy contributions of a different organisation to cover the full costs of an apprenticeship for your setting.

If your setting has fewer than 50 employees

You will receive **100% of the funding** where the apprentice is 16-18 years old or is between 19-24 and has a local authority education, health and care plan.

Employers and training providers will both receive an **additional £1,000** where the apprentice is between 16 and 18 years old.



How apprenticeships could benefit your setting

Apprenticeships are work-based training programmes that are designed to help employers train people for specific job roles. Apprentices get a paying job with valuable training while they work towards a nationally recognised apprenticeship standard.

An apprenticeship can be for new or existing staff. Best Practice Network is a national apprenticeship provider working exclusively with schools and nurseries to deliver apprenticeship training.



“I cannot fault the support I’ve received in any way. Any queries or questions I have are answered promptly and I feel my confidence is rising as I know I will receive any support needed.”

Early Years Apprentice

Best Practice Network is a registered apprenticeship training provider and an accredited provider of professional development for education professionals nationally, with 97% of our participants recommending us to a colleague.

We work in close partnership with practising education professionals to develop and deliver high-quality programmes.

Rated
“an exceptional
training provider”

- Department for Education

Learn. Share. Grow.



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