

Early Years Educator

This occupation is found in a range of maintained and private, voluntary, and independent settings such as full day care, children's centres, pre-schools, reception classes, playgroups, nursery schools, home based provision, hospitals, social care settings, out of school environments, and local authority provision.

The broad purpose of the occupation is to provide high quality early education and care to children. Through an evidence based approach, they provide opportunities and learning experiences for all children, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

You can see more information about the apprenticeship standard at [Skills England](#).



months minimum*

Assessment methods

1

Observation with questions

The observation will last for 1 hour and 20 minutes, 50 minutes of observation followed by 30 minutes of questioning. The observation with questioning must take place in the apprentice's normal place of work.

2

Professional discussion

A 90 minute structured discussion underpinned by a portfolio of evidence, to assess the apprentice's competence in, equality, diversity, and inclusion, safeguarding, relationships, learning and child development, and continuous professional development



Learning



Gateway



End-Point Assessment

The EPA Process



Gateway meeting:

training provider, employer and apprentice meet to determine if they are ready for their EPA, and submit any files as needed through the iLearner system.



Assessor meeting:

the employer and an iCQ Assessor meet to agree any evidence submitted by the apprentice and plan dates for assessments.



Learner preparation:

the employer and training provider make sure the learner is familiar with the iLearner tools and formats of their assessments.

End-Point Assessment is carried out by iCQ Assessor.

Cost	£700 (in person)
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With you every step of the way

iCQ support the complete apprenticeship journey for employers, training providers and learners through our innovative iLearner platform – making it easy and quick to record and track progress.



*Apprenticeship starts from 1st August 2025 are eligible for the 8-month minimum duration, starts before 1st August 2025 are subject to a 12-month minimum duration.