

Early Years Lead Practitioner

Early years lead practitioners are found in a range of educational settings which can include day nurseries, playgroups, nursery schools, pre-schools, kindergartens, primary schools, hospitals, social care educational settings, out of school environments and local authority provision. The broad purpose of the occupation is to be a proactive and influential practitioner, working directly with children, skilfully leading day to day practice at an operational level.

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



months minimum*

Assessment methods

1

Observation with Questions

The 90-minute observation will involve the apprentice interacting with a group of children through an opportunity or experience for learning, based on the session plan, leading or supervising colleagues during this session and communicating with parents, carers or guardians of the children under their supervision.

2

Professional Discussion

The 90-minute discussion is supported by a portfolio of evidence and will assess the apprentice around, legislation and guidance, health and wellbeing, continual professional development, child development, observation and assessment planning



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	£775 (remote)
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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.