



A Career in

EARLY EDUCATION

1

LEARN ABOUT THE
DIFFERENT TYPES OF
CHILDCARE AVAILABLE

2

SOURCE A RELEVANT
QQI LEVEL 5 OR 6
QUALIFICATION

3

SPEAK TO KNOWLEDGEABLE
PRACTITIONERS

4

GAIN PRACTICAL
WORK EXPERIENCE



Longford County Childcare Committee
Templemichael
Longford

Types of Childcare

There are many different types of services you can work in from Nurseries to After School Services. The age range in early education varies from babies ages six months to school aged children of up to twelve years.

Crèche/Daycare Services (0-6 years)

This type of service offers a daycare service for children for more than 5 hours per day. A crèche can consist of different rooms for differing ages and stages i.e. babies, wobblers & toddlers and pre-school aged children. Meals, sleep rooms and access to an outdoor play area are provided.

Pre School Services (2.5 - 6 Years)

This type of service provides care and education to children for a maximum of 3.5 hours per day. Pre-School offers early education opportunities to young children in the two years before commencing primary school education. Examples of early education curricula are available over leaf. Pre-Schools can be stand alone services or part of a daycare service.

School Aged Childcare

School aged childcare provides after school care from children aged 4 – 12 years in a safe and comfortable environment. Activities within school aged childcare can include Speech & Drama, Arts & Crafts, Music & Dance, Home Work Support, Cooking & Baking, Physical Activities and much more. The programme changes in accordance with the needs and the wishes of the children.

Qualifications

There are numerous childcare courses available on a full time and part time basis. Your local County Childcare Committee or Education and Training Boards (ETB) are a good starting point.

Longford/Westmeath ETB and Longford Women's Link offer QQI Level 5 modules on an on-going basis throughout the year. Each module takes on average 40 hours to complete which equates to approximately 10 weeks of training per module.

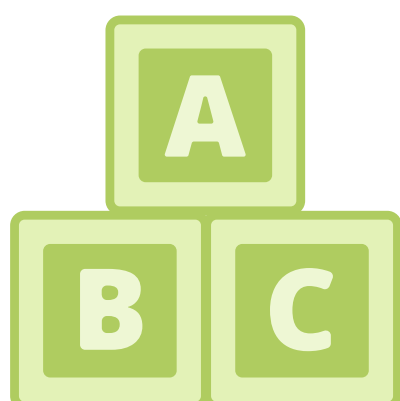
Early Care & Education Practice QQI Level 5

As of January 2017, a minimum qualification of QQI Level 5 on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) for all staff working with children in early years services will come into effect.

This course is designed for those who care for young children in a range of settings which may include Nurseries, Creches, Playgroups, After School e.g. Nannies and Childmiinders

In order to receive a full QQI Level 5 award, there is a requirement to fulfil 8 modules in total which must include:

Child Development
Early Care & Education Practice
Early Childhood Education & Play
Child Health and Well Being
Work Experience
Communicarions
Creative Arts for Early Childhood
Equality & Diversity in Childcare

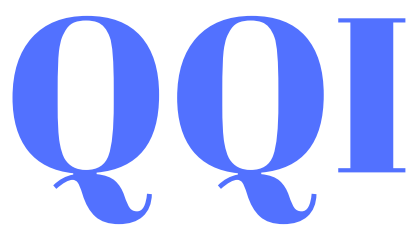


Further Career Development

QQI Level 7 & Level 8 Qualifications

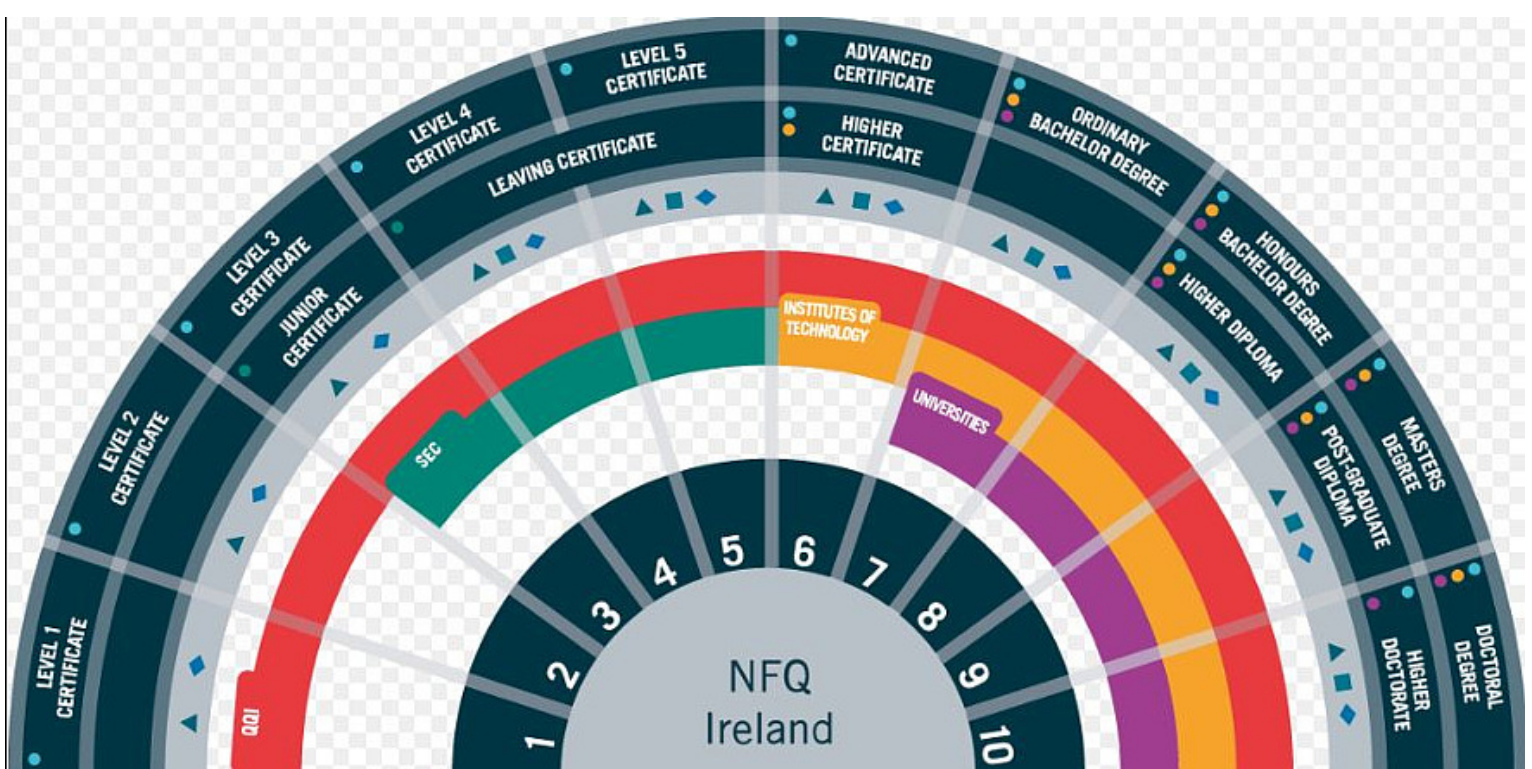
There are many courses of further education available to those wishing to progress their career working in the early years.

It is possible to study to degree level in the early years on both a full time and a part time basis. Many courses are planned to work around the busy working lives of early years professionals. These courses aim build on practical experience, enhancing the learner's skills through exposure to theory, policy, research and work-based learning opportunities. Additionally, they aim to provide practitioners currently working in the field of early childhood care and practice an opportunity to upgrade their qualifications, to further develop their skills and to enhance their existing knowledge.



The QSearch on QQi website provides information about courses which are validated by QQI. Qualifax also provides a course search facility . You can search by– All Courses or as follows:
 Courses leading to NFQ awards
 PLC Post Leaving Cert
 Postgraduate

Application for courses is directly to the provider or via CAO and most do have information days.



Registered Providers



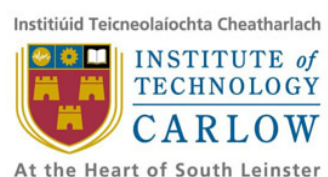
Athlone Institute of Technology
 Institute of Technology,
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Institute of Technology, Carlow
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Institute of Technology, Sligo
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For further information and advice please contact Longford County Childcare Committee



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