



The Learning Institute

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES



ABOUT US

The Learning Institute provides opportunities for individuals and communities through high quality education, training and research programmes that challenge personal barriers and promote social inclusion. If your dream is to develop a career working with children, young people, their families and communities, The Learning Institute can help.

We offer a range of foundation degree and top-up degree courses in partnership with the University of Worcester. Our courses are designed to fit around work and family life, and are delivered locally at venues in Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Dorset, Bristol, South Gloucestershire and London.

At The Learning Institute we treat all learners as individuals. We provide a nurturing environment with dedicated tutors and support staff. Whether you are already working in education or health and want to further your career prospects, you are returning to education, or you are a recent school leaver, we may have a course that suits you.

This booklet tells you about our foundation and top-up degrees. To find out more about our masters degrees, initial teacher training, apprenticeships and research projects, please visit our website.

www.learninginstitute.co.uk

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Working in partnership with
 **University of Worcester**

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OUR DEGREES ARE DELIVERED IN LOCATIONS ACROSS THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND.

Study in a venue* near you, with students from interrelated courses.

*Please note, all venues and courses run subject to numbers





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COURSE DELIVERY

Our degrees are delivered using a blended learning approach, which combines face-to-face learning, interactive live online learning, tutorials, independent study and work-based learning or critical engagement workshops.

FACE-TO-FACE LEARNING

- Small study groups
- Supportive peer learning
 - Developing skills
 - Tutorials
- Taught at local venues

LIVE ONLINE LEARNING

- Delivered via virtual learning environment (VLE)
- Specialist tutor for degree-specific learning
- You will need access to a computer with a secure internet connection
- Technical specifications and support with basic ICT skills available via ict@learninginstitute.co.uk

STUDENT CONFERENCE

- Twice yearly (Friday evening and Saturday daytime in a central location)
- Introduction to degree-specific modules and content with specialist tutors
- Meet fellow students from across the country
 - Peer support and networking
 - Student voice opportunities

INDEPENDENT STUDY

- Approximately 20-30 hours per week depending on course
- Pre-session tasks and reading
- Individual and group projects
 - Preparing assignments

CRITICAL ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOPS

Top-up degree only

- Engage in exploration of a particular topic or skill
- May include elements of teaching, guided learning or student or peer-led activities
 - Small study groups

WORK-BASED LEARNING (WBL)

Foundation degrees only

- Students will need to evidence a minimum of 200 hours of WBL per year
 - WBL hours should be spread evenly across each year, with some hours accrued each week
 - Working or volunteering in an appropriate workplace
 - Link theories and concepts to practice and policies in a professional context

KEY FEATURES

Weekly learning sessions (one day per week, e.g. 1.00p.m. - 7.30p.m.) with a combination of face-to-face and live online delivery, enabling you to balance study, work and home demands. This day will remain the same for both years of the foundation degrees.

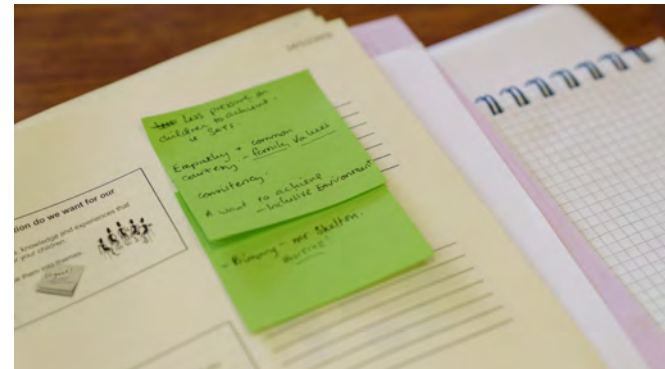
Learning through tutor-led delivery, discussion, small group activities and individual learning.

Local delivery to groups made up of students across a small number of interrelated courses, enriching your study experience.

Work-based learning provides you with key opportunities to link theory and practice during both years of your foundation degree.

In a typical week you will have around 6-8 hours of planned learning sessions.

Student support is available both through The Learning Institute and the University of Worcester, helping you to make the most of your life as a student and achieve your potential in your academic studies.



EARLY YEARS PROFESSIONAL FdA

As a professional working in the Early Years Foundation Stage, you can make a significant difference to children's lives. This is a time of key developmental milestones for babies and young children, and this degree will provide you with the opportunity to deepen your knowledge of key concepts and practices. The degree aims to support your own development as a practitioner. In addition, it is designed to meet the approved 'full and relevant' Early Childhood benchmark statements (subject to DfE approval) as well as the criteria identified for the Early Years Educator (EYE). Many settings insist on EYE, as well as relevant Level 2 qualifications in literacy and maths, as a basic requirement when recruiting staff. You will study with like-minded people across a range of other related professional roles based in your own community. As work-based practice is a key part of this course, you have the potential to earn whilst you learn.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY? ASSESSMENT

Level 4[†]

- Supporting academic skills
- Human growth and development
- Foundations of understanding
- Professional enquiry
- Promoting the enabling environment

Level 5[†]

- Understanding our personal and professional selves
- Creative pedagogies
- Assessment, evaluation and planning of learning
- Working in partnership
- Professional enquiry in action
- Supporting learning in the early years curriculum

[†]These modules are indicative, and subject to change.

The course provides opportunities to assess understanding and learning informally through the completion of formative tasks. Each module has one or more summative assessments, which are graded and count towards the overall module grade. Assessment methods include essays, reports, critical reflections, portfolios and presentations.

EMPLOYABILITY

The course could provide you with the self-confidence, skills and knowledge to develop your career in the early years sector, and is designed to meet the approved 'full and relevant' Early Childhood benchmark statements (subject to DfE approval) as well as the criteria identified for the Early Years Educator (EYE). Achievement on this course means that practitioners can be used much more flexibly in ratios with children in early years settings. In addition, if a practitioner has EYE and 2 years' experience in early years, they can become a Manager of an early years setting. This degree is relevant for early years practice at Level 5, which is a standard that employers often look for when recruiting senior staff in early years settings. Additionally, other progression routes from this degree include roles in children's centres, school settings or provision in statutory, voluntary and private organisations. The majority of students on similar courses complete a top-up year to gain a full honours degree, with some moving on further into masters level study. This course provides an excellent route to progress to qualified teacher status.

"I have learned so much, not just academically, but more importantly about myself as a life-long learner. The challenge was definitely worth it!"

COURSE INFORMATION

AWARD

This foundation degree is awarded by the University of Worcester.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Please see page 20 for details of standard and non-standard entry requirements.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Enhanced DBS and health check required. For more details, see page 20.

INSTITUTE CODE

W80

CAMPUS CODE

I (capital i)

UCAS COURSE CODE

X315

PROGRESSION

- There is the opportunity to progress on to a top-up degree (in order to obtain a full honours degree) upon completion of the foundation degree

- FdA Early Years Professional is designed to meet the approved 'full and relevant' Early Childhood benchmark statements as well as the criteria identified for the Early Years Educator.

- Additional postgraduate study options available.

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION FdA

Inclusive education should not be regarded as simply a special educational needs or disability (SEND) issue, but as one which concerns everyone. Confronting the exclusionary practices which children and young people with SEND experience involves confronting many of the cultural values and beliefs by which other forms of exclusion (e.g. racism, sexism, and discrimination on the basis of social class) are both created and sustained. Whilst studying this foundation degree you will explore some of the factors directly related to the child or young person that influence their engagement, not only with learning and education, but with the wider society in which they live. As a result you can make a significant difference by providing support and guidance to children and young people when they need it. You will study with like-minded people across a range of other related professional roles based in your own community. As work-based practice is a key part of this course you have the potential to earn whilst you learn.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Level 4 †

- Supporting academic skills
- Human growth and development
- Introducing inclusive education
- Professional enquiry
- Promoting the enabling environment

Level 5 †

- Understanding our personal and professional selves
- Discourses in disability
- Agency in children and young people
- Professional enquiry in action
- Assessing and evaluating provision to promote the inclusion of individuals and groups

†These modules are indicative, and subject to change.

ASSESSMENT

The course provides opportunities to assess understanding and learning informally through the completion of formative tasks. Each module has one or more summative assessments, which are graded and count towards the overall module grade. Assessment methods include essays, reports, critical reflections, portfolios and presentations.

EMPLOYABILITY

The course can provide you with the self-confidence, skills and knowledge to develop your career working with children and young people. This work-based approach to learning can put you at an advantage over other degree courses as you will be in a position to show your understanding of practices that can enable engagement in learning for children and young people. Employment opportunities may include, for example, Higher Level Teaching Assistant, Community Development Worker, Disability Support Officer in further and/or higher education, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Co-ordinator, and Participation Worker. You will be well prepared to work in education settings, children's centres or additional inclusion and participation provision in statutory, voluntary and private organisations. The majority of students on similar courses complete a top-up year to gain a full honours degree, with some moving on further into masters level study or other postgraduate programmes such as teacher training.

“I have felt myself grow academically, in confidence, in ambition and develop my skills in relation to my work placement.”

COURSE INFORMATION

AWARD

This foundation degree is awarded by the University of Worcester.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Please see page 20 for details of standard and non-standard entry requirements.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Enhanced DBS and health check required. For more details, see page 20.

INSTITUTE CODE

W80

CAMPUS CODE

I (capital i)

UCAS COURSE CODE

X365

PROGRESSION

- There is the opportunity to progress on to a top-up degree (in order to obtain a full honours degree) upon completion of the foundation degree

- Postgraduate study opportunities include the National Award SENCo, JNC in Youth and Community Work, PGCert in Inclusive Practice and MA Inclusion and SEND.

- The course can be used to support you on your route into teacher training.

LEARNING AND EDUCATION FdA

Having knowledgeable and effective practitioners working in an education environment is vital if children and young people are to develop their learning and achieve their potential. Whilst studying this foundation degree you will explore some of the factors that can influence learners' progress, exploring specific influences on the learner as well as how the environment and curriculum support their development. As a result, you will have the knowledge and skills needed to make a significant difference to learners' outcomes. You will study with like-minded people across a range of other related professional roles based in your own community. As work-based practice is a key part of this course you have the potential to earn whilst you learn.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Level 4 †

- Supporting academic skills
- Human growth and development
- The contemporary curriculum
- Professional enquiry
- Promoting the enabling environment

Level 5 †

- Understanding our personal and professional selves
- Learners and their motivations
- Meeting the needs of the individual
- Assessment, evaluation and planning of learning
- Professional enquiry in action
- Supporting learning within the curriculum

†These modules are indicative, and subject to change.

ASSESSMENT

The course provides opportunities to assess understanding and learning informally through the completion of formative tasks. Each module has one or more summative assessments, which are graded and count towards the overall module grade. Assessment methods include essays, reports, critical reflections, portfolios and presentations.

EMPLOYABILITY

The course could provide you with the self-confidence, skills and knowledge to develop your career working with children and young people. This work-based approach to learning can put you at an advantage over other degree courses as you will be in a position to show your understanding of practices that can promote effective learning for children and young people. Employment opportunities may include, for example, Higher Level Teaching Assistant, taking on a role of greater responsibility in the setting such as cover supervisor, delivering an intervention or specific work within an aspect of provision. You will be well prepared to work in education settings, children's centres or additional care provision in statutory, voluntary and private organisations. The majority of students on similar courses complete a top-up year to gain a full honours degree with some moving on further into masters level study. This course provides an excellent route to progress to other postgraduate programmes such as teacher training.

“Question everything you read and hear. Extend your questioning to your workplace – what works? What doesn't? Why? But remember question, don't criticise!”

COURSE INFORMATION

AWARD

This foundation degree is awarded by the University of Worcester.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Please see page 20 for details of standard and non-standard entry requirements.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Enhanced DBS and health check required. For more details, see page 20.

INSTITUTE CODE

W80

CAMPUS CODE

I (capital i)

UCAS COURSE CODE

X305

PROGRESSION

- There is the opportunity to progress on to a top-up degree (in order to obtain a full honours degree) upon completion of the foundation degree

- Postgraduate study opportunities including masters level study e.g. MA Values-Led Leadership.

- The course can be used to support you on your route into teacher training.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE FdSc

Positive mental health and wellbeing is crucial in enabling children and young people to achieve an enjoyable and fulfilling life. This foundation degree allows students to explore the wide range of contemporary issues which can positively or negatively impact upon the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people. Biological, psychological, social, emotional and political influences are considered in relation to the current crisis in mental health. For those working to support children and young people, the degree provides a variety of effective, practical, non-specialist, therapeutic approaches. The overarching aim of the degree is to enhance students' understanding, and to develop their practical abilities in order to play an active role in enhancing the life experiences and outcomes for children and young people. You will study with like-minded people across a range of other related professional roles based in your own community. As work-based practice is a key part of this course you have the potential to earn whilst you learn.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Level 4 †

- Supporting academic skills
- Human growth and development
- Introducing the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people
- Professional enquiry
- Promoting the enabling environment

Level 5 †

- Understanding our personal and professional selves
- Identification and support of mental health and wellbeing of children and young people
- Agency in children and young people
- Professional enquiry in action
- Therapeutic interventions and interpersonal communication

†These modules are indicative, and subject to change.

ASSESSMENT

The course provides opportunities to assess understanding and learning informally through the completion of formative tasks. Each module has one or more summative assessments, which are graded and count towards the overall module grade. Assessment methods include essays, reports, critical reflections, portfolios and presentations.

EMPLOYABILITY

The course could provide you with the self-confidence, skills and knowledge to develop your career working with children and young people. This work-based approach to learning can put you at an advantage over other degree courses as you will be in a position to show your understanding of mental health and wellbeing practices in action. Employment opportunities include, for example, Higher Level Teaching Assistant, a specific role as a student mentor or pastoral support worker, or mental health and wellbeing practitioner. You will be well prepared to work in education settings, children's centres or additional care provision in statutory, voluntary and private organisations. The majority of students on similar courses complete a top-up year to gain a full honours degree, with some moving on further into masters level study or other postgraduate programmes.

"Studying for a foundation degree with The Learning Institute gave me a platform to further expand my skills, knowledge and experiences, which have all had a positive effect on my personal and professional life."

COURSE INFORMATION

AWARD

This foundation degree is awarded by the University of Worcester.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Please see page 20 for details of standard and non-standard entry requirements.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Enhanced DBS and health check required. For more details, see page 20.

INSTITUTE CODE

W80

CAMPUS CODE

I (capital i)

UCAS COURSE CODE

L525

PROGRESSION

- There is the opportunity to progress on to a top-up degree (in order to obtain a full honours degree) upon completion of the foundation degree

- Postgraduate study opportunities for students looking to work in child and adolescent mental health services.

ADVANCING PRACTICE BA (Hons) top-up degree

Four pathways available: Early Years Professional (EP) | Inclusive Education (IN) | Learning and Education (LE) | Mental Health and Wellbeing of Children and Young People (MW)

The BA (Hons) Advancing Practice top-up degree has been designed for those who want to advance their practices for effective working with children, young people, their families and communities. Whilst this top-up degree is relevant for professionals within a range of sectors, the separate pathways will allow students to continue their own professional journey. Here, knowledge development and skills acquisition can support students to fulfil future specialist roles within their field. To ensure that their studies are relevant to future roles, students have the opportunity to negotiate a specific assignment foci.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

Pathway specific modules†

- EP: Perspectives of childhood
- IN: Culture and Disability
- LE: Psychological perspectives of motivation in learning environments
- MW: Mental health and wellbeing issues in contemporary society

Other mandatory modules†

- The positionality of the practitioner
- Engaging with change in the professional environment
- Specialism in focus

Optional modules (choose one)†

- Research project
- Social enterprise

†These modules are indicative, and subject to change.

ASSESSMENT

The course provides opportunities to assess understanding and learning informally through the completion of formative tasks. Each module has one or more summative assessments, which are graded and count towards the overall module grade. Assessment methods may include reports, critical evaluations, critical reflections, portfolios and a project or business development plan.

EMPLOYABILITY

The top-up degree places emphasis on enabling students to develop the independent learning capabilities that will equip you for lifelong learning and future employment, as well as academic achievement. The modules have been chosen and structured to support the development of more sophisticated independent study skills during this final year of the honours degree. Moving on further into masters level study would be an appropriate next step for some students. In addition some pathways provide excellent routes to progress to qualified teacher status.

"The tutors at The Learning Institute go above and beyond to offer support and to help you achieve and become the best version of yourself that you can be."

COURSE INFORMATION

AWARD

Subject to validation, this top-up degree is awarded by the University of Worcester.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS Foundation Degree or equivalent. Please see page 20 for more details of standard and non-standard entry requirements.

INSTITUTE CODE
W80

CAMPUS CODE
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UCAS COURSE CODE
L536

PROGRESSION

- There is the opportunity to progress on to further study at masters level upon completion of the top-up degree, e.g. MA Values-Led Leadership or MA Inclusion and SEND.

- The course can be used to support you on your route into teacher training.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

We consider applications from individuals with a wide range of prior educational and employment experiences. For all applicants, current or recent experience of working with babies, children or young people, such as employment or work in a voluntary capacity within an appropriate workplace, is desirable.

Foundation Degrees:

The normal minimum entry requirement is the possession of 4 GCSEs (Grade C/4 or above) and 1 A Level or equivalent Level 3 qualification. Evidence of level 2 literacy is required (e.g. key skills or functional skills at level 2 or GCSE English Language at grade C/4 or above). Students whose first language is not English may present evidence of a minimum standard of English at IELTS level 6 (with no less than 5.5 in each element). If you do not have evidence of literacy at level 2 or above then you will be expected to complete a task to demonstrate competence in written English.

BA (Hons) Advancing Practice:

This top-up degree offers a progression pathway to a full honours degree for anyone who has recently completed a relevant foundation degree equating to 240 credits at Level 4 and 5, or DipHE, HND or equivalent qualification in education, health, care or welfare or related subject.

We are committed to providing education to all those who can demonstrate the potential to benefit and succeed. **We welcome applicants who hold qualifications or experiences that are different to those shown above,** and who can demonstrate the ability to benefit from the course and show their potential to complete the course successfully. Please contact us for more details.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

An Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check is required for our **foundation degrees**, and students will need to register for the DBS Update Service. Students who are already signed up to the DBS Update Service may not need a new DBS; the University of Worcester will confirm on an individual basis.

All of our **foundation degrees** require students to be working or volunteering in an appropriate workplace, accruing hours each and every study week across both years.

Typically, applicants for the **BA (Hons) Advancing Practice** will have experience of working within the relevant professional environments and a valid DBS certificate.

COURSE-RELATED COSTS (NOT INCLUDED IN FEES)

- Access to a computer with a secure internet connection.
- Purchase of key text books and other resources such as stationery.
- You may need to pay for an Enhanced DBS check and to register with the DBS Update Service.
- Travel costs (e.g. to venue for taught sessions, the foundation degree work-based learning placement)
- Accommodation, travel and some meals when attending student conferences.

HOW TO APPLY

All applications* for our degrees are made at www.ucas.com.

UCAS will ask for information including past qualifications, employment experience, personal details, referee contact details, and a personal statement making your case for entry. There is a cost for making a UCAS application – details of this can be found on the UCAS website.

You will receive an applicant number and password for UCAS's follow up enquiry service (ucastrack), and will receive communication confirming these details. You can use ucastrack to find out what decisions have been made in response to your application.

To apply for one of our degrees, you will need to use the campus and institute code, along with the relevant course code, which can be found in the Course Information box for your chosen course.

*internal students can apply for the top-up degree via their SOLE page





FINANCING YOUR STUDIES

TUITION FEES

Please visit The Learning Institute website for details of annual tuition fees for our degrees: www.learninginstitute.co.uk/finance.

Student loans are available to fund tuition fees and contribute towards the cost of living. Full details of loans and grants available can be found at www.gov.uk/student-finance.

TUITION FEE LOANS

The tuition fee loan covers your annual tuition fee. The Student Loans Company pays this, on your behalf, directly to the University of Worcester for each year of your study.

MAINTENANCE LOANS AND EXTRA FUNDING

You may also be able to apply for a maintenance loan for day-to-day living expenses. The exact amount depends on your household income. If you are on benefits you may be eligible for a loan enhancement.

Some extra funding is available for students with dependants or with disabilities. Full details, including a student finance calculator, can be found at www.gov.uk/student-finance.

REPAYMENTS

Details about how your student loan is repaid can be found online at www.gov.uk/repaying-your-student-loan.

FURTHER GUIDANCE

The University's Money Advice Service can also provide lots of helpful information about student money: www.worc.ac.uk/moneyadvice.





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www.learninginstitute.co.uk

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