

Duration:

Two academic years

Start Date:

September each year

Attendance:

Part-time – one day a week (Friday)

Venue:

The course will be offered locally by Buckinghamshire New University (High Wycombe Campus) and Aylesbury College - Buckinghamshire New University validate the award

Cost:

£1100.00 per year (fee correct as of 01/09/08). Please discuss funding opportunities with your employer or line manager.

Foundation Degree in Working with Children and Young People

Two years Part-time, one day a week

Modules also available in bite size units



Who should do this course?

This programme will be of great interest to people who are planning a career in, or already working in a range of settings with children and young people.

This may include (but is not exhaustive!) youth club workers, play workers, learning support, educational welfare, voluntary/charity sector, community support/development, classroom assistants, civilians working with the police/child support, connexions workers, GP receptionists, social care workers, day care workers, careers guidance, child bereavement workers or Brook advisory workers.

A Foundation Degree is a nationally recognised work-based qualification that will help you progress within your career.

Why not try a taster day or open event?

Coming back into education can be daunting, but attending one of our taster days could help ease any concerns or worries you may have, by offering an opportunity to meet the teaching team and other students, familiarise yourself with the Higher Education environment and experience a couple of module taster sessions.

We plan to offer a taster day on Friday 29 May and a drop in open afternoon on Monday 13 July 2009 at our High Wycombe Campus. Please call 01494 603 171 to reserve your place.

What is a Foundation Degree?

A Foundation Degree is equal to the first two years of a three year Honours Degree at a UK university. It can be achieved in two years by part-time study because it is work-based and in an applied discipline. There is also an option to take stand alone modules as short courses in order to build to the award of Foundation Degree or enhance your knowledge in key areas.

Currently about 50,000 students (mostly adult and part-time) are following Foundation Degrees in England. Subjects range from Nuclear Decommissioning to Community Development and Early Years! Almost all Foundation Degrees offer progression to an

Honours Degree, and Buckinghamshire New University offers a top-up to a BA (Hons) degree in Practice Development.

The key features of a Foundation Degree are:

- The development of specialist knowledge and skills relevant to your own area of work
- Learning structured around your employment
- The development of motivated and qualified students who will benefit from increased career opportunities
- You can continue to earn while learning - there is no need to give up your job to do a Foundation Degree
- Partnership input and support from both academics and practitioners.

How will the course be delivered?

Flexible and diverse study methods including work based learning, lectures, seminars, tutorials, distance learning and on-line support.

Students will study in the workplace and will be have an allocated Mentor to support their learning in practice.

The course team

The course team comprises lecturers and practitioners with a wide spread of qualifications and experience in working with children and young people. You will also be supported in your studies by a lecturer from the course team who will visit you in the workplace to support your work-based learning. Students will have full access to the library and Learning Resources Centre at Bucks New University and the learning resources of Aylesbury College.

Course content

The course contains 8 modules normally delivered over 2 years. If students choose to select specific modules as short courses, they can be built over a period of no longer than four years to the award of Foundation Degree.

How to apply for the course

Contact the appropriate person for an application pack:

Buckinghamshire New University,
Chalfont Campus – Vicki Williams on
01494 603 171 or health@bucks.ac.uk

Aylesbury College - Carolyn Jones
01296 588 512 or cjones1@aylesbury.ac.uk

Further information and advice

Visit bucks.ac.uk/cpd or
www.aylesbury.ac.uk

Key Contacts:
Penny Farrelly
01494 522 141 extension **5767**

Jane Wright
01494 522 141 extension **2311**



Modules

1 & 2 The world of the child and young person

- Child and adolescent developmental theory across Physical, Intellectual, Emotional, Language and Social development
- Learning styles/issues/theory
- Delayed development – causes and effects
- Culture and diversity
- Disability/complex needs
- The child in diverse settings
- Inclusion/exclusion
- Behavioural theory
- Risky behaviours
- Substance abuse/self harming
- Youth crime
- Health promotion

3 Effective communication and engagement with children and young people

- Communication skills with children and young people
- Engaging young people: use of language
- Negotiation skills; managing conflict
- Theory around communication
- Counselling skills

- Emotional integrity/raising self esteem
- Consent/confidentiality
- Record keeping
- Promoting mental health
- Working with groups
- One-to-one work

4 Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of child and family

- Roles and responsibilities
- Legislation & policy
- Recognising abuse
- The common assessment framework
- Working together

5 Supporting transitions

- Child, youth and adult transitions
- Responses to change
- Loss and separation
- Bereavement
- Divorce and family breakdown
- Children with complex health and social needs
- Looked after children
- Children out of school setting
- Legal frameworks
- Inclusion/exclusion

6 Multi-agency working (sharing information)

- Sharing information; participation and consultation
- Working in teams
- Roles and responsibilities
- The role of the state
- The role of the voluntary sector
- Provision of services
- Ethical issues
- Data protection

7 Working with parents and carers

- Listening to parents
- Managing behaviour
- Parents of children with complex needs
- Culture and diversity
- Young carers
- Family centred care
- Working in partnership

8 The Reflective Practitioner

- Issues from practice
- Reflective skills
- Portfolio/work-based
- Management development
- Leadership
- Performance and project management
- Supervision skills and expectations
- Health and Safety issues

What are the employment opportunities?

Bucks New University offers a 'conversion to honours' programme – BA (Hons) Practice Development. The course has been developed as a work-based course to develop skills in analysis and evaluation, with students being supported to undertake substantial projects in the place of work, with a focus on practice development.

A typical mature graduate may wish to use the degree for progression into other areas of working with children and young people such as health, education or social care.

What are the entry requirements?

Applicants must currently be working with or planning to work with children and young people in different settings. Practice experience may be undertaken as employed work or for a registered charity (voluntary work). Bucks may be able to assist students in finding voluntary placements if they are not currently employed.

Students with credits at NVQ 4, Advanced Diploma in Childcare and Education or equivalent learning in child care settings may be offered credit through Bucks New University's Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL) regulations and procedures.

Places will be offered on the programme subject to interview.