What will I be able to do with my qualification?

You can apply for jobs as a nursery assistant, and consider studying for Level 3 diplomas (which are the equivalent of A levels) or NVQ's, which will qualify you for promotion and additional responsibilities in pre school care of children. Such training can be by college courses, and/or on the job training.

PUPIL PROFILE

Verity is currently in Year 10 and is studying geography and German as well as Early Years Care. Verity chose this course because she has two young cousins she enjoys being with, and likes 'what children do and how they do it.'

This course will be useful because 'It will advance my skills in Early Years Care and as it's a foundation course, I can go on to study the subject at a higher level'.

Even if Verity does not go into childcare she is learning life skills for when she has her own children.

Verity has enjoyed the practical cooking sessions, (and eating what she has prepared!) and also the discussions about catering and caring for young children.

She is looking forward to having a 'virtual baby' and visiting local nurseries. Verity says this course is different to more traditional options because it is interesting meeting people from other schools. She said 'Everyone is really nice, friendly and funny.'

She plans to possibly go into professional childcare in the future and would like to run her own nursery.

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Cirencester Deer Park School • Cirencester Kingshill School Cirencester College • Sir William Romney's School • Farmor's School Royal Agricultural College



The South Cotswold Partnership

CACHE Award/Certificate in Children's Care and Education Level 2

This course is offered through the South Cotswold Partnership and will be partly taught at Sir William Romney's School.

Why should I study this subject?

If you would like to work with children as a nursery nurse, preschool assistant, work in a crèche or in a playgroup, this course will give you a good start to your career.

How will I learn?

You are taught in a number of interesting and varied tasks, some text based and others with more practical emphasis. These are assessed and moderated within the centre. Some students' work will be sent for and moderated by CACHE who award the qualification. Sometimes members of staff or their families will bring in their young children so that you can do an observation or ask questions.

You will complete a number of units, each with an assignment at the end, and a multiple choice paper covering the core units at the end of the course.

The units covered are:

1. An introduction to working with children.

Identifying provision for children in the area, your responsibilities, how to prepare for working with children, understanding children's individual needs.

2. The developing child.

Patterns of development in children, how to observe children and recognise stages, how to support children, the importance of care routines etc

3. Safe, healthy and nurturing environments for children.

Health and safety, preparation and maintenance of a safe environment. How to manage conflict when working with children.

4. Children and play.

Stages of play, types of play, how to provide appropriate activities, considering the concept of challenge and risk in a safe environment. This is usually fun as you get to play with some of the toys, make toys and read stories.

5. Communication and professional skills within childcare and education.

How to develop effective communication skills, and improve and develop professionally. Personal target setting.

Other units are available including play activities, supporting children with additional needs and how children learn, but may only be added if time allows, as they are not part of the Award/Certificate syllabus.

What about Work Experience?

There is no formal requirement for work experience, but we will be able to offer the chance to visit local nurseries and playgroups, for observation, investigation and some 'hands on' experience. You may also like to think about focussing your school work experience towards a child centred placement. This



may be easier to find if you are doing a childcare course as placements may be encouraged by your studies in school.

How will I be Assessed?

Assessment is by assessment task or portfolio, and a multiple choice question paper.

For the Award in Children's Care and Education you will complete units 1 and 2.

For the certificate in Children's Care and Education you will complete 5 units.

The Award is equivalent to 1 GCSE A^* to C and the certificate is equivalent to 3 GCSE's A^* to C.

Contact: Mr C Germaine – 14 - 19 Partnership Coordinator

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