

Application: CAO

Award Title: Bachelor of Arts in Early Years Education

Duration: 3 Years (6 Semesters)

Places: 60

National Vetting Bureau: Yes

Location: Bishopstown Campus

Early Years Education

There is an ever increasing demand for quality Pre-School services in Ireland today and the BA in Early Years Education provides specialised training, support, advice and information on best practice for the education and care of young children from 0 to 6 years with a view to supporting the development of an Early Years workforce.



Graduate Profile

Clíodhna Walsh
Self Employed

"Work experience, Creative Arts, small classes, and dedicated lecturers make this course the best of its kind. Graduates from this course have a new and different approach.

Group work and psychology played a major role in my personal and emotional growth as a childcare professional. The support from lecturers of this course is exceptional. They will go above and beyond their call of duty for their students. They are available for discussions, emails, and feedback to help you along, and their support enabled me to attain my first class honours degree.

I established my own business, a Naíonra. The Business Administration, Law in Early Years, and Business modules contributed to this accomplishment."

Admission

For admission to a programme, standard applicants must

- score the necessary CAO points and
- meet the minimum entry requirements

Entry 2018

Minimum Entry Requirements

Leaving Certificate in 5 Subjects

Subjects O6/H7	Subjects H5	Maths Grade	English or Irish Grade
5	0	(Note 1)	O6/H7

Note 1: There is no requirement for Mathematics. A Grade F2 or higher in Foundation Level Mathematics is recognised as one of the subjects for entry.

Note 2: CIT uses the National Vetting Bureau (NVB) to help assess the suitability of all applicants on this programme. It is important to note that participation in or completion of this programme may be affected by subsequent disclosure/discovery.



Contact Information

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www.cit.ie/course/CR620

September 2017

Early Years Education

CAO Code CR 620
Level 7 Award



About the Course

The course aims to train graduates to educate and meet the needs of children aged 0-6 years and to manage childcare facilities. The various biological, cognitive, emotional, and social stages of a child's development are studied.

The course offers the student the opportunity to study early childhood from differing perspectives – educational, psychological, social, and cultural. The course also includes tuition in Art, Music and Drama, which will provide an extensive portfolio of child-centred activities. Attention is also paid to practical skills needed in this type of work such as child health, exercise and nutrition, and the physical care of children. Central to the EYE Degree is the Professional Work Practice (PWP), i.e. a Placement experience of 12 weeks duration in both Years 2 and 3 of the course. This involves supervised hands-on experience in centres approved by the Institute, for example, Preschools, Naíonraí, Creches, Primary Schools, and Centre for Children with Special Educational Needs.

There is an option of international placements with partner organisations in other European countries.

Further Studies

For details, see www.cit.ie

Suitably qualified graduates are eligible to apply for entry to the one year add-on

- > Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Early Years Education (Level 8)

Honours Degree holders who achieve the specified level of academic performance are eligible to apply for a postgraduate course of study, both at CIT and at other third level colleges in Ireland and abroad.

Work Placement

There are 2 mandatory work placement experiences in this course

- Year 2: 12 Weeks
- Year 3: 12 Weeks

First Year at a Glance

- **Creative & Critical Thinking:** This module provides students with the theoretical underpinning of how creativity & creative development promotes and extends critical thinking in the context of the young child. Focus will be placed on the role of the adult in providing authentic learning opportunities through an Inquiry Based Learning approach in order to promote self-initiation and investigation in children under the age of six
- **Process Led Arts:** This module aims to introduce students to the Artistic Elements within the disciplines of Music, Art and Drama. The Artistic Elements will be central to the concepts explored within experiential workshops. National Frameworks, Regulations and Guidelines (e.g. Aistear and Siolta) will inform the structure, delivery and assessment of the module
- **Playful Learning; Birth to 3:** This module aims to foster student awareness of the significance of play as a fundamental right for all children and its impact on the holistic learning and development of children from birth to age 3. Students will explore their own roles and acquire the necessary skills, tools and knowledge to support play for children from infancy to age 3 years in inclusive Early Childhood Care and Education (ECEC) contexts
- **Development Psychology:** This module is designed to introduce students to the psychology of child development and to enable the student to apply principles of developmental psychology in a variety of Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) settings
- **Placement observation:** 2 weeks, 60 hours

Career Opportunities

Employment opportunities include Early Years Education and Childcare; Children with Specific Learning Needs; Children's Residential Care Centres; Family and Community Support Centres; and After School Services. BA Honours graduates (Level 8) are strongly positioned and fully qualified to take up management roles in each of the above settings.

Potential Areas of Employment

- Early Years Education and Childcare
- Children with additional needs
- Children's Residential Care Centres
- Family and Community Support Centres

Question Time

Am I fully qualified to work in Early Years Education after three years' study in CR 620?

Yes.

Is there a pathway to primary school teaching from this course?

BA (Honours) graduates are eligible to apply for the Professional Masters in Education (PME) in Primary Teaching, which is a 2-year Level 9 Qualification, as long as they present with the minimum Leaving Certificate requirement in Irish or suitable equivalent. The Department of Education and Skills recognises this PME to teach in Primary Schools.

