



CHEVRON
COLLEGE

Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education and Care (Online*)



Nurturing Skills
Learner Fund





About Chevron College

Established in 2005, Chevron College is Ireland's largest further and higher education provider. Accredited by Quality & Qualifications Ireland (QQI), Chevron specialises in the delivery of critical skills programmes to over 15,000 students online per annum.

Our team of 135 full-time staff and 250+ industry experienced tutors support and deliver training via eLearning and blended learning, to students in both the public and private sector. Chevron is an approved provider of Springboard+ funded programmes and a prime contracted training provider to Education & Training Boards (ETBs) nationwide.

With over 900 five star Google reviews, our delivery team is renowned for providing our students with peace of mind when returning to education.

Our tutors are patient and caring and are available to support students by phone and email at every stage of their educational journey, from onboarding to completing assessments.

As the 'College that Cares', we look forward to welcoming you to Chevron College and supporting you on your journey towards a rewarding career within the Early Learning and Care sector.



Nurturing Skills Learner Fund

In 2024, former Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, Roderic O’Gorman, T.D., launched a pilot of a new Nurturing Skills Learner Fund (NSLF) This pilot is being extended to a third intake of up to 350 Educators seeking to upskill to Level 7 and Level 8 ELC Qualifications in the academic year 2026/2027. The NSLF aims to support the professional development of early years educators and advance commitments to achieve a graduate-led workforce by 2028.

The Nurturing Skills Learner Fund covers up to 90% of the fees incurred by early years educators studying for Early Learning and Care qualifications at Level 7 and Level 8 that have been approved by the Qualifications Advisory Board, while continuing to work in the sector. Fees are paid directly to the educational institutions on behalf of successful applicants.

The scheme applies to those Early Years Educators who are entering an NSLF approved ELC level 7 or 8 qualification for the first time, therefore an applicant for NSLF must not hold or be undertaking an Approved Course at level 7 or level 8 at the time of application and funding.

In order for a learner to avail of financial support through the NSLF, learners must be currently working in an ELC or SAC service that is in contract for DCEDIY’s Core Funding programme.

Enquire today about the Nurturing Skills Learner Fund (NSLF) as places will be limited and on a first come, first served basis.



**Nurturing Skills
Learner Fund**





Meet the Programme Team



DONNA DOYLE - PROGRAMME LEADER

- Doctoral Candidate in Education
- MA Early Childhood Care, Education & Management
- PG Cert in Teaching & Learning in Higher Education



GAIL CULLINANE - LECTURER

- MA Early Childhood Care, Education & Management
- BA (Hons) Early Childhood Education & Care



AMY DOBBS - LECTURER

- MA Early Childhood Care, Education & Management
- BA (Hons) Early Childhood Education & Care



SYLVIA MOONEY - PLACEMENT LEAD

- M. Ed. Early Intervention in the Early Years
- BA (Hons) Early Childhood Teaching and Learning



Key Facts



START DATE:

September 2026



AWARDING BODY:

QQI



FORMAT:

Blended



DURATION:

2 – 4 Years
Depending on Stage of Entry



AWARD:

BA in Early Childhood Education
and Care level 7 or 8



Student Contribution

Please contact for details





About our Course

Chevron College recognises that every childhood lasts a lifetime and acknowledges the significant role the Early Years Educator plays in shaping early childhood. Chevron, therefore, aims to ensure that graduates of this programme will emerge as highly qualified professionals who equally value their role, and the role of early childhood education and care.

The diversity of this programme will ensure that Early Years Educators are equipped with the competence to navigate the ever-changing landscape of early childhood education and care in Ireland. It aims to enable Early Years Educators to support the holistic care and development of all children within their practice, with an emphasis on supporting children's rights,

inclusion, diversity and collaborative practice.

Early Childhood Educators will emerge from the programme as highly employable, child-centred professionals and leaders, with the tools to positively impact the lives of young children. Graduates can work as Early Years Educators, take on leadership and management roles within the sector, and undertake further academic study and research.

Learners will be supported through this journey of personal and professional development by a team of highly qualified and experienced Early Childhood Education and Care lecturers and support staff.

Entry Requirements

Entry requirements: Stage 1

Learners will not be expected to have prior knowledge or experience of the ECEC sector on entry to the programme at stage 1 but must meet one of the following requirements:

- Leaving Certificate grade O6/H7 or above in 6 subjects including grade O6/H7 in Maths and grade O6/H7 in English.
- Be 23 or over on the 1st of January on the year of entry and have significant experience in the sector whilst meeting the relevant admission criteria.
- Have successfully completed a Level 5 award on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) or equivalent.
- *Learners must also have a minimum English language proficiency of IELTS 6.0.

Entry requirements: Stage 2 (Advanced Entry)

- QQI level 6 Early Years Major award
- English proficiency (if English is not your 1st language) any of the below English proficiently exams will suffice-IELTS score 6.0 or above – Duolingo score of 105 or higher – Cambridge score of FCE or higher – Any assessment CEFR B2+ or higher
- Sufficient IT skills





Qualifications Awarded

Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education and Care



How Online Learning Works

Learners can study from home through Chevron's Virtual Learning Environment and engage with weekly study resources at times that suit their own schedule.

There are weekly live webinars to further support learners' learning, providing opportunities for group discussion and collaboration, fostering peer-to-peer learning.

Learners will be required to attend an virtual online induction webinar at the start of each stage of the programme.

Following the completion of each module learners will have developed and gathered the knowledge, understanding and weekly feedback to enable them to complete their final assessment.

Professional Practice Placement is a requirement at all 4 stages of this programme, with 35% of the programme allocated for placement.

Programme Content

Stage 1 (60 credits)

Stage 1 of the programme will introduce learners to the Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) sector including legislative, quality, and curriculum requirements. Learners will explore concepts, theories and strategies associated with early childhood learning and development and will recognise the importance of a play-based, inclusive early learning environment. Through guidance, research and professional practice placement, learners will embark on the journey of developing their own professional identity and pedagogical approaches to become reflective, ethical, child-centred Early Childhood Educators.

Stage 1 Modules

SEMESTER 1	CREDITS	SEMESTER 2	CREDITS
ECEC Historical and Current Contexts	10 Credits	Language and Multilingualism in Early Childhood	5 Credits
Child Health, Care and Well-being	10 Credits	Curriculum and Pedagogy 1	5 Credits
Early Childhood Learning and Development	5 Credits	Relationships in the Early Years Environment	5 Credits
Psychology of Child Development	5 Credits	Professional Practice 1	15 Credits

Programme Content

Stage 2 & 3 BA Level 7 Ordinary Degree (120 credits)

Stage 2 will provide learners with a strong understanding of the key areas and concepts pertaining to the role of the Early Years Educator.

Learners will evaluate current early years practice from a global and national context and will examine strategies and practices to support the holistic development of children, with an emphasis on creativity, inclusion, equity, and collaborative practice.

Stage 3 will further support learners to develop an in-dept understanding of key areas and concepts pertaining to the role of the Early Years Educator and Leader. Learners will evaluate current early years practice from a global and national context and will examine strategies and practices to ensure a high-quality, compliant early years environment. Through research, reflection and professional practice placement, learners will further develop their professional practice and emerge as ethical and transformative leaders.

Stage 2 & 3 Modules

STAGE 2	SEMESTER 1	CREDITS	SEMESTER 2	CREDITS
	Sociology and Social Policy	5 Credits	Literacy in the Early Years Environment	5 Credits
	Creative Play in the Early Years Environment	5 Credits	Advanced Early Childhood Learning and Development	5 Credits
	Equity, Diversity and Inclusion	5 Credits	Supporting Community and Parental Involvement	5 Credits
	Professional Practice 2	30 Credits		
STAGE 3	SEMESTER 1	CREDITS	SEMESTER 2	CREDITS
	Inspection, Regulation, Policies and Procedures	5 Credits	Inclusion and Children with Additional Needs	5 Credits
	Curriculum and Pedagogy 2	5 Credits	Children's Rights and the Voice of the Child	5 Credits
	Supervision, Mentoring & Leadership	5 Credits	Research Methods including a Research Proposal	5 Credits
	Professional Practice 3	30 Credits		

Programme Content

Stage 4 BA Hons Level 8 (60 credits)

Stage 4 will provide learners with a more comprehensive and complex understanding of ECEC in Ireland.

Learners will examine the role of management in ECEC and understand the theory and processes involved in the management of high quality ECEC and School Age Childcare services.

Learners will analyse existing research and engage in new research pertaining to the area of Early Childhood Education and Care.

Stage 4 Modules

SEMESTER 1	CREDITS	SEMESTER 2	CREDITS
Quality in ECEC	5 Credits	Emerging Issues in Early Childhood	5 Credits
Advanced Pedagogical Practices	5 Credits	School Age Provison	5 Credits
Leading Management in Early Years	5 Credits	Law in ECEC	5 Credits
Professional Practice 4	10 Credits		
Dissertation	20 Credits		

Why Choose Chevron College

- ✓ Irish Qualification (QQI)
- ✓ Unrivalled tutor support
- ✓ No classroom days required
- ✓ Study breaks during Christmas, January & Summer months
- ✓ All online blended learning

Course Support



Induction day at the start of each stage



Phone / E-mail support



Weekly live webinars



Highly Qualified full time in-house lecturers



Access to study skills advisor



Interaction and collaboration with other online learners



Access to a comprehensive e-library



Course Benefits

- ✓ Study in your own time and pace
- ✓ Flexible easy pay instalment plans
- ✓ Personal growth and development, reach your potential
- ✓ Increased credibility and respect within the sector
- ✓ Enhanced career opportunities and earning potential
- ✓ Insure job satisfaction and stability as the sector evolves
- ✓ Obtain a free Microsoft education licence and Student card Benefits



Career Opportunities

Graduates of the programme undertake a variety of career paths in the early years, education and social care fields.

- Become employed as an Early Years Educator, Lead Educator, Early Childhood Supervisor or Manager
- Open your own Early Years service
- Become employed with government department such as Tusla, local Childcare Committees or CE schemes
- Gain employment with education providers in a tutoring/lecturing role
- Pathway to Primary school teacher, PME programme (Professional Masters in Education)

Testimonial



"I have gained a lot of knowledge and practical strategies from this course"

Chevron College's online BA programme was first recommended to me by a friend. The programme was a perfect fit as it suited my busy lifestyle; I am a wife and mother to three children and work full time in a Childcare setting.

The tutor support was excellent, I never felt isolated as phone and e-mail support was on hand throughout the programme. I found the online discussion forum very interactive, I was able to communicate with the tutors and fellow learners to help support and guide me with my studies.

I have gained a lot of knowledge and practical strategies from this course and the experience has exceeded my expectations significantly, I would highly recommend the programme. I am currently thinking of progressing to my Masters in Childcare Management with Chevron College.

Angelina McDonnell-Mangan

How to Enrol

Call us today: **01 6855 300**

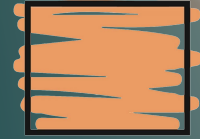
Request callback:

info@chevroncollege.ie





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✉️ **info@chevroncollege.ie**
🌐 **chevroncollege.ie**

*Please note this is a blended learning programme further details on page 11

*Subject to applicants having completed QQI Level 6 Childcare Major award or comparable

