



Course

Specification

BA (Hons) Childhood Development and Playwork

Course Code: BCDAP

2024/25

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

BA (Hons) Childhood Development and Playwork (BCDAP)

Applicant Course Specification for 2024/25 Undergraduate Entrants

Confirmed at November 2023

General Information

Award	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Childhood Development and Playwork
Contained Awards	Bachelor of Arts Childhood Development and Playwork (Level 6) Diploma of Higher Education Childhood Development and Playwork (Level 5) Certificate of Higher Education Childhood Development and Playwork (Level 4)
Awarding Body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of Qualification and Credits	Level 6 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 120 credit points at each of Levels 4, 5 and 6 of the UK Credit Framework for Higher Education (360 credits in total).
Course Lengths and Standard Timescales	Start dates are notified to students via their offer letter. The length of the course and modes of delivery of the course are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 years, full-time, campus based• 6 years, part-time, campus based
Part Time Study	Part-time delivery is usually at half the intensity of the full-time equivalent course, although there may be flexibility to increase the pace of study to shorten the overall course duration. Some modules may be delivered in a different sequence from that defined within this specification but the modules offered within each level are consistent.
Location of Delivery	The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus, plus location of placements.
Entry Requirements	Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/ . Admissions enquiries may be directed to: AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk .
Course Fees	Course fees and any additional course costs are confirmed in your offer letter. Fees enquiries may be directed to Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk .

Timetable Information

Timetables for semester one are made available to students during induction week via:

- The Student Portal
- The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions should be discussed with your Course Administrator.

Policies, Standards and Regulations

<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations/>

The course follows the standard Academic Regulations.

There is pass/fail marking for placement assessments in Level 4 Experiential Learning: Theory and Practice Explored and Level 5 Experiential Learning: Theory and Practice Advanced modules.

Your Key Contacts

Course Director	Dr Alexandra Long
Academic Advisor	Confirmed during induction
Course Administrator	Urszula Scibior, u.scibior@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Placement Information

Summary

Students are required to undertake a period of sustained experiential learning at both levels 4 and 5 of the course. For full-time students, the requirement of 360 hours is usually achieved over a period of approximately 14 weeks, though this is determined by the nature of the placement setting. For part-time students, their experiential learning module is generally split across a two year period and the allocation of the 360 hour placement at level 4 and 5 requirement, is portioned as appropriate.

Length

360 hours undertaken at level 4 and level 5

Location

Normally in West Yorkshire.

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

This course does not have professional body accreditation or recognition.

Course Overview

Aims

Through the exploration of subjects of childhood development and playwork, the aims of the course are to:

- Provide students with the theoretic knowledge and practical skills required by employers across the diverse Children and Families Workforce.
- Provide flexibility to enable students to develop progression routes into their preferred graduate destinations.

Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- 1 Work with children and families in diverse contexts, demonstrating a deep understanding of child development from the perspective of a broad range of psychological disciplines.
- 2 Apply a transferable approach to reflexive playwork practice across a range of child-focussed occupations informed by theories of childhood, processes of strategic organisational development and play, as practiced and refined in the field.
- 3 Make strategic, informed decisions about provision for children, demonstrating a systematic understanding of the key theories and research informing the study of childhood development and playwork.
- 4 Recognise the multiplicity of childhoods as diverse, socio-culturally constructed concepts, and understand the implications of the expression of these concepts for children's lived experiences in respect of practice, policy, legislation and rights provision.
- 5 Develop small-scale social research projects, demonstrating an understanding of critical ethical issues and applying suitable methodologies commensurate with undergraduate studies and forming a foundation for postgraduate research.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Teaching is delivered face to face and while the majority of teaching is class-based, incorporating a mix of lectures, seminars and workshops, the role of experiential learning is central to the course. Enabling students to relate theory to practice is critical to the achievement of the learning outcomes of the course and this is facilitated through various means. A number of modules incorporate field-trips, allowing students to experience a range of settings first-hand whilst meeting practitioners in their professional context. Some

modules include contributions from specialist practitioners from across the children’s workforce, to share their expert knowledge with students. This ensures the authenticity and relevance of the teaching through valuable insights into operational aspects of service delivery and approaches to working with children in a range of contexts. Experiential Learning modules offer students a guided learning opportunity which is informed, in the main, by students’ personal interests. Critically, the two periods of experiential learning at levels 4 and 5, allow students to enter a community of practice, exploring and witnessing theory in practice, trialling a playwork approach to working with children. This is supported through a range of online guided learning resources, offering students opportunities for formative feedback throughout the period of practice. Here students are supported to examine approaches to practice and provision for children and their play.

Students are supported to develop the skills necessary to engage in self-directed, academic study. This is supported by the academic librarian and colleagues from Skills for Learning.

Your Modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the course in standard timescales. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery is provided in your timetable.

Full-time - Semester 1	Core Y/N	Semester 2	Core Y/N
Level 4			
Playwork: Foundations of Theory and Practice 20 credits	Y	Experiential Learning: Theory and Practice Explored 20 credits	Y
Child Development: Exploring Issues and Perspectives on Play 20 credits	Y	Experiential Learning: Organisation Development 20 credits	Y
Childhood: Theory, Constructs and Concepts 20 credits	Y	Experiential Learning: Reflective Practice 20 credits	Y
Level 5			
Playwork: Critical Applications 20 credits	Y	Experiential Learning: Theory and Practice Advanced 20 credits	Y
Childhood: Rights and Society 20 credits	Y	Experiential Learning: Objectives and Evaluation 20 credits	Y
Child Development: Developing while Playing 20 credits	N	Experiential Learning: Developing Reflexivity 20 credits	Y
Project Development: Places and Spaces for Play 20 credits	N		
Level 6			
Childhood: Research Perspectives 20 credits	Y	Project Development: Managing Design and Delivery 20 credits	Y
Child Development: Contemporary Perspectives 20 credits	N	Playwork: Therapeutic Interventions 20 credits	Y
Childhood: Global Perspectives 20 credits	N		
Childhood Development and Playwork: Dissertation 40 credits	Y	Childhood Development and Playwork: Dissertation continues	Y

Part-time - indicative Semester 1	Core Y/N	Semester 2	Core Y/N
Level 4, Year 1			
Playwork: Foundations of Theory and Practice 20 credits	Y	Experiential Learning: Theory and Practice Explored 20 credits	Y
Childhood: Theory, Constructs and Concepts 20 credits	Y		
Level 4, Year 2			
Child Development: Exploring Issues and Perspectives on Play 20 credits	Y	Experiential Learning: Organisation Development 20 credits	Y
		Experiential Learning: Reflective Practice 20 credits	Y
Level 5, Year 3			
Playwork: Critical Applications 20 credits	Y	Experiential Learning: Theory and Practice Advanced 20 credits	Y
Childhood: Rights and Society 20 credits	Y		
Level 5, Year 4			
One option module 20 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Development: Developing while Playing • Project Development: Places and Spaces for Play 	N	Experiential Learning: Objectives and Evaluation 20 credits	Y
		Experiential Learning: Developing Reflexivity 20 credits	Y
Level 6, Year 5			
One option module 20 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Development: Contemporary Perspectives • Childhood: Global Perspectives 	N	Playwork: Therapeutic Interventions 20 credits	Y
Childhood: Research Perspectives 20 credits	Y		
Level 6, Year 6			
		Project Development: Managing Design and Delivery 20 credits	Y
Childhood Development and Playwork: Dissertation 40 credits	Y	Childhood Development and Playwork: Dissertation continues	Y

Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities by Level

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and typical option module choices undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director but applicants should note that the specific option choices students make may influence both assessment and workload balance.

A standard 20 credit module equates to 200 notional learning hours, comprising teaching, learning and assessment, embedded placement activities and guided independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

Assessment

Level 4 is assessed by coursework mainly, with some practice/practical assessments.

Level 5 is assessed by coursework mainly, with some practice/practical assessments.

Level 6 is assessed by coursework mainly, with some practical assessments.

Workload

Overall workload in hours	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Teaching and Learning	174	174	194
Independent Study and Assessment	666	666	1006
Placement	360	360	0
Total	1200	1200	1200

Learning Support

If you have a question or a problem relating to your course, your Course Administrator is there to help you. Course Administrators work closely with academic staff and can make referrals to teaching staff or to specialist professional services as appropriate. They can give you a confirmation of attendance letter and a transcript. You may also like to contact your Course Representative or the Students' Union Advice team for additional support with course-related questions.

Student Services

If you have any questions about life at University, call into our Student Services Centre at either campus or contact Student Advice directly. This team, consisting of trained officers and advisers are available to support you throughout your time here. They will make sure you have access to and are aware of the support, specialist services, and opportunities our University provides. They also work on a wide range of projects throughout the year all designed to enhance your student experience and ensure you make the most of your time with us. Student Advice are located in the Student Services Centre in the Leslie Silver Building at City Campus and on the ground floor of the Priestley Building at Headingley Campus. The team can also be contacted via email at studentadvice@leedsbeckett.ac.uk, telephone on 0113 812 3000, or by accessing our online chat link, available on the student homepage.

Support and Opportunities

Within MyBeckett you will see two tabs, Support and Opportunities, where you can find online information and resources. The Support tab gives you access to details of services available to give you academic and personal support. These include Library Services, the Students' Union, Money advice, Disability advice and support, Wellbeing, International Student Services and Accommodation. There is also an A-Z of Support Services, and access to online appointments/registration.

The Opportunities tab is the place to explore the options you have for jobs, work placements, volunteering, and a wide range of other opportunities. For example, you can find out here how to get help with your CV, prepare for an interview, get a part-time job or voluntary role, take part in an international project, or join societies closer to home.