

## How do I become a Childcare Practitioner?

### Step 1 – The Necessary Qualification

The **Learning Pathway** to become a **Childcare Practitioner** involves obtaining the **Level 5 Early Childhood Care and Education Major Award** - QQI code 5M2009.

This award is obtained by **completing 8 modules** within the Childcare Curriculum.

Six modules are **mandatory**, while two are **elective** to obtain this QQI Major Award.

### Step 2 – Choose your Modules

**Choose** the 8 **modules** you are going to **complete** in accordance with your current career or chosen profession as per the below structure. For further information on each of these modules see course pages or click on the links below.

Component/Certificate	Accreditation/Level	Mandatory/ Elective
<a href="#">Communications</a>	QQI Level 5 5N0690	<b>Mandatory</b>
<a href="#">Work Experience</a>	QQI Level 5 5N1356	<b>Mandatory</b>
<a href="#">Child Development</a>	QQI Level 5 5N1764	<b>Mandatory</b>
<a href="#">Child Health and Well Being</a>	QQI Level 5 5N1765	<b>Mandatory</b>
<a href="#">Early Care and Education Practice</a>	QQI Level 5 5N1770	<b>Mandatory</b>
<a href="#">Early Childhood Education and Play</a>	QQI Level 5 5N1773	<b>Mandatory</b>
<a href="#">School Age Childcare</a>	QQI Level 5 5N1781	<b>Elective</b>
<a href="#">Special Needs Assisting</a>	QQI Level 5 5N1786	<b>Elective</b>
<a href="#">Social Studies</a>	QQI Level 5 5N1370	<b>Elective</b>
<a href="#">Childminding Practice</a>	QQI Level 5 5N1766	<b>Elective</b>
<a href="#">Safety &amp; Health at Work</a>	QQI Level 5 5N1794	<b>Elective</b>

### Step 3 – Book your Modules

You can choose to **book all 8 modules** together:

Click on the '[Early Childhood Care and Education Major Award QQI L5](#)' course. The benefit of this option is that you will receive a discounted rate for booking all 8 modules together.

**Alternatively**, you can choose to **book** each module **individually**:

Click on the relevant module and book your first module.

Different learning delivery options are also detailed in this section

### Step 4 – Progression

If you decide to further progress your Childcare Education the next award to consider is the **Level 6 Early Childhood Care and Education Major Award** - QQI code 6M2007.

This award also requires **completing 8 modules**, this time five mandatory and three electives. Students who have completed ECCE L5 can submit evidence of their full award and will be exempt from completing an elective module.

Choose your **modules** as per the below **structure**:

<b>Component/Certificate</b>	<b>Accreditation/Level</b>	<b>Mandatory/ Elective</b>
<a href="#">Child Development</a>	QQI Level 6 6N1942	<b>Mandatory</b>
<a href="#">Early Childhood Curriculum</a>	QQI level 6 6N1944	<b>Mandatory</b>
<a href="#">Childhood Social, Legal &amp; Health Studies</a>	QQI Level 6 6N1945	<b>Mandatory</b>
<a href="#">Work Practice</a>	QQI Level 6 6N1950	<b>Mandatory</b>
<a href="#">Team Leadership</a>	QQI Level 6 6N1948	<b>Mandatory</b>
<a href="#">Equality and Diversity</a>	QQI level 6 6N1974	<b>Elective</b>
<a href="#">Supervision in Early Childhood Care</a>	QQI Level 6 6N1973	<b>Elective</b>
<a href="#">Early Learning Environment</a>	QQI Level 6 6N1933	<b>Elective</b>
<a href="#">Child Psychology</a>	QQI Level 6 6N2023	<b>Elective</b>
<a href="#">Special Needs Assisting</a>	QQI Level 6 6N1957	<b>Elective</b>
<a href="#">Creative Studies for Special Needs</a>	QQI Level 6 6N1972	<b>Elective</b>
<a href="#">Communications</a>	QQI Level 6 6N1950	<b>Elective</b>

Again, you can choose to **book all 8 modules** together:

Click on the '[Early Childhood Care and Education Major Award QQI L6](#)' course. The benefit of this option is that you will receive a discounted rate for booking all 8 modules together.

**Alternatively**, you can choose to **book** each module **individually**:

Click on the relevant module and book your first module.

Different learning delivery options are also detailed in this section.