Early Years and Education

Access to HE Diploma (Education Professions)

Campus: University Centre Rotherham
Code: U13AC04

About This Course

The Access to HE Diploma (Education Professions) is a nationally recognised Level 3 qualification designed for adults aged 19 and over who are looking to progress to university and build a career within education and related professions.

Whether you are returning to education, seeking a career change, or looking to take the first step towards becoming a teacher, learning support practitioner, youth worker or education professional, this course provides the knowledge, skills and confidence needed to succeed in Higher Education.

Delivered at University Centre Rotherham, the programme combines educational theory, professional practice and academic study skills to prepare learners for degree-level study and future employment within the education sector.

What Will I Study?

You will explore a wide range of topics such as:

- Educational theory and contemporary issues in education
- Teaching and learning approaches
- Safeguarding
- Equality, diversity and inclusion
- Child development and early socialisation
- Working with children with additional needs
- Psychology and sociology

- Research and academic writing
- Professional identity and reflective practice
- Communication, presentation and study skills

You will also develop the academic skills required for university-level study, including critical thinking, research, referencing and independent learning.

Why Study Here?

- Study within a supportive Higher Education environment at University Centre Rotherham.
- Benefit from experienced tutors with extensive educational expertise.
- Develop the confidence and academic skills needed for university success.
- Access dedicated academic and pastoral support.
- Progress onto Higher Education programmes within the RNN Group and beyond.
- Join a growing community of aspiring education professionals.
- Successful learners will be guaranteed an interview for the Foundation Degree in Learning Support at University Centre Rotherham, providing a clear progression route into Higher Education.

Entry Requirements

Typically learners should:

- Be aged 19 or over.

- Hold GCSE English Language at Grade 4/C or above (or equivalent) or be willing to work towards this alongside the programme where appropriate.
- Demonstrate a commitment to progressing into Higher Education.

Applicants with relevant experience but non-traditional qualifications are encouraged to apply.

Applicants will attend an interview and initial assessment

How To Apply

You can apply using our online application form and clicking the **Apply Now** button at the top of this page.

For more information support with your enquiry or application please contact Student Services by emailing info@rotherham.ac.uk or by calling **01709 362111**.

What Courses Can I Progress Onto?

Successful learners may progress onto:

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- BA (Hons) Education and Professional Development (following appropriate progression routes)
- PGCE/ProfGCE (following completion of a degree)
- Childhood Studies degrees
- Learning and Teaching Degrees
- Primary Education and Early Years Programmes
- Education Studies degrees
- Learning Support and SEND-related qualifications
- Youth Work and Community Education programmes

Tuition Fees

Those aged 19 or over may not need to pay fees depending on their circumstances. Find out if you qualify.

If you need further advice or
guidance please contact the Enquiries Team on **01709 362111.**

Additional Information

Adults aged 19+ considering a career in education, teaching, learning support, youth work, training or related professions.

Particularly suitable for:

Adults aged 19+ who:

- Are returning to education
- Wish to progress to Higher Education
- Are considering a career in teaching or education
- Work within schools, colleges or learning support roles
- Wish to change career and enter the education sector

The Access to HE Diploma (Education Professions) is a QAA-recognised Level 3 qualification and is widely accepted by universities across the UK as a progression route into Higher Education.

The programme provides an excellent foundation for future study within education, teaching, childhood studies, social work and related professions.

PLEASE NOTE

We make every effort to ensure information within our online course directory is accurate and a true representation of the courses we are offering in 2027 – 28. However, we do reserve the right to make changes if necessary.

Last updated: 22nd November 2026