



Best
Practice
Network

Multiple starts throughout the year

Funding available

Personal Tutor Support

Train to become a Playworker

with the Playworker Level 2 Apprenticeship

EYP AT A GLANCE

Course Duration: 15-17 months

- Blended training
- Tutor on-site visits
- Monthly webinars
- Awards Playworker Level 2 qualification

"We are thrilled to be offering this new employer requested programme that is easily accessible for a variety of settings."

Tracy Clement
Apprenticeships Director

Learn. Share. Grow.



About

The Level 2 Playworker apprenticeship is a funded work-based training programme.

This programme is aimed at playworkers who work in a range of play settings offering different models of playwork. The purpose of our curriculum is to support playworkers to develop into positive, flexible and team-focused members of staff, and to support them to provide the best possible provision for the children in their care.

Ideal for playworkers who work with children in a ranges of private, voluntary and independent settings, including:

- Breakfast and after-school clubs
- Holiday clubs
- Adventure playgrounds
- Mobile play provisions
- Sports and leisure facilities
- Play sessions in women's refuges, hospitals and prisons
- Woodland and park outdoor sessions

What will I be learning?

The course is delivered over 15-17 months for a full time staff member, including 1:1 taught lessons, tutor visits and coursework.



How will I be learning?

Most of your learning will take place on a one-to-one basis with your apprenticeship tutor in the workplace. You will also attend monthly webinars and complete work-based tasks and online assignments. You will use an online platform called BUD to help you learn topics and skills, reflect on your practice and build your e-portfolio of evidence.

Reviews

You will have reviews and support from your tutor every month, either by a visit to your setting or online. Your employer/mentor will be an integral part of these reviews.

Curriculum themes

There are 10 core modules:

- Module 1** Roles and responsibilities of a playworker
- Module 2** Health and safety
- Module 3** Safeguarding
- Module 4** Communication and teamworking
- Module 5** Child development and play
- Module 6** Enabling environments and observing children's play
- Module 7** Administration and managing resources
- Module 8** Supporting wellbeing and resilience
- Module 9** Equality, diversity and inclusion
- Module 10** Partnership working and behaviour

These will be delivered over 1:1 taught lessons with your tutor, and coursework to complete online for your E-portfolio.

Optional extra accredited units

You can choose one or more extra units to undertake on top of the curriculum. The extra unit must be relevant to your setting. There are Level 2 and Level 3 units for learners who want to add stretch and challenge to their apprenticeship. The extra units are:

- Support Children With Additional Needs and Disabilities in a Playwork Setting (Level 2)
- Carry Out Playwork in Schools (Level 2)
- Contribute to Providing Food and Drink in the Playwork Setting (Level 2)
- Establish and Facilitate Playwork in a Non-Dedicated Setting (Level 3)
- Explore Different Perspectives and Influences on Playwork (Level 3)

Off-the-job training

For the apprenticeship, a certain amount of your working hours should be focused on gaining new learning.

The amount will be dependent on your contracted hours per week. Please see the table for more information.

See below for more examples.

Contract hours	Off-the-job training
30 hours or more	Average of 6 hours per week
Less than 30 hours	20% of working hours and the programme length will be extended accordingly
Term time only contract	More than 6 hours per week



Functional skills

If you have not secured a grade 4 (C) or above (or equivalent) in maths and English GCSE, you will be required to complete functional skills at level 1 in:

- **English** – reading, writing, speaking and listening
- **Maths** – calculator with a non-calculator section

You will be supported on a one-to-one basis by your apprenticeship tutor to complete these as quickly as possible using a range of training materials to best suit you.



Gateway

On programme completion, you, your employer and apprenticeship tutor will meet to agree you are ready for your End Point Assessment.

This is also a chance for your tutor to help with any questions you have about the assessment, and make sure you are confident and happy to proceed.

End Point Assessment (EPA)

The EPA is conducted by an external company.

The assessment period is for up to 2 months, but can be quickly achieved.

- Assessment 1 – professional discussion through your portfolio
- Assessment 2 – multiple choice quiz
- **Assessment 3 - Observation and questioning**



What do I need to apply?

You must be 16 or over and meet the following criteria to apply.

UK residency for 3+ years.

Employed in a relevant setting. We can help you find a placement.

Funding agreed with the apprenticeship account holder. Support is available.

Funding

As an apprentice, you won't need to pay any money towards your course. Your setting can access programme funding through the Apprenticeship Levy Fund. Best Practice Network can help your employer if needed to apply for these funds.

How to apply

To apply, you should complete the application via the [programme page](#) on our website. After we receive your application, we will get in touch to guide you through the rest of the enrollment process. You will need to upload proof of any existing qualifications and complete a short maths and English initial assessment.

Where do I go next?

The Playworker Level 2 apprenticeship is equivalent to a NVQ Level 2 qualification. After completing the apprenticeship you could go on to:

- Progress within your setting as a supervisor or manager
- Work as a playwork development officer for a local authority
- Move into a school as a Teaching Assistant
- Become self-employed and set up an after-school club or childcare project
- Move into an Early Years setting and proceed with an Early Years Educator Level 3 apprenticeship

For employers – how apprenticeships could benefit your setting



Hiring an apprentice

You can employ apprentices at different levels, from school leavers or recent graduates to people who wish to advance in their careers or change careers altogether.

The government offers a range of funding options to help settings support apprentice training.

If you need help recruiting for an apprentice in your setting or school, we can help! Speak to our recruitment team on +44 (0) 117 920 9428 or email enquiries@bestpracticenet.co.uk

What is the levy fund?

The English apprenticeship levy fund is controlled by the Department for Education and was created as a long-term funding solution for companies to hire and train apprentices.

Our apprenticeship programmes qualify for funding from the English apprenticeship levy fund. Best Practice Network provides support to candidates and their employers to access this funding.

For guidance on how the funding routes apply to your setting, speak to one of our apprenticeship experts on +44 (0) 117 920 9428 or email enquiries@bestpracticenet.co.uk

Enrol your employees

Employers should contact Best Practice Network via enquiries@bestpracticenet.co.uk to reserve a place on the required programme.

We will then support you with gathering all necessary information, registering your Apprenticeship Service Account, funding applications and any necessary recruitment.

Upskill your workforce

By using apprenticeships to upskill your existing staff, you are helping to fill key gaps in your business, improving staff retention and supporting their professional development.

Here at Best Practice Network, we support learners through our career pathway, developing their skill from Level 2 to Level 5.

£ Funding routes

If your setting contributes to the apprenticeship levy fund

Levy paying employers can access their fund contributions through their **Apprenticeship Service Account**. You can use this service to manage the funds you have available for apprenticeship training in England.

If your setting does not contribute to the apprenticeship levy fund

You pay 5% towards the cost of the training for your apprentice. The remaining **95% will be paid by the government**.

Apprenticeship levy transfer

Employers with unspent funds can **transfer up to 25%** of that contribution to another employer. That means you can benefit from the levy contributions of a different organisation to cover the full costs of an apprenticeship for your setting.

If your setting has fewer than 50 employees

You will receive **100% of the funding** where the apprentice is 16-18 years old or is between 19-24 and has a local authority education, health and care plan.

Employers and training providers will both receive an **additional £1,000** where the apprentice is between 16 and 18 years old.

How apprenticeships could benefit your setting

Apprenticeships are work-based training programmes that are designed to help employers train people for specific job roles. Apprentices get a paying job with valuable training while they work towards a nationally recognised apprenticeship standard.

An apprenticeship can be for new or existing staff. Best Practice Network is a national apprenticeship provider working exclusively with schools and nurseries to deliver apprenticeship training.





“I cannot fault the support I’ve received in any way. Any queries or questions I have are answered promptly and I also feel my confidence is rising as I know I will receive any support needed.”
- Early Years Apprentice

Best Practice Network is a registered apprenticeship training provider and an accredited provider of professional development for education professionals nationally, with 97% of our participants recommending us to a colleague.

We work in close partnership with practising education professionals to develop and deliver high-quality programmes.

Rated
“an exceptional
training provider”

- Department for Education

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