



DIPLOMA OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN CHILDHOOD PRACTICE

This is a credit-based qualification.

These regulations should not be read in isolation. It is important that you read them in conjunction with the following documents:

- Introduction to *The Qualification Regulations*
- General Qualification Regulations.

If you wish to print these regulations, you are advised to print *all* these documents.

DHE–ChP 1 QUALIFICATION NAME

DHE–ChP 1.1 The University offers the Diploma of Higher Education in Childhood Practice. Holders of this qualification are permitted to use the letters Dip HE (Open) after their names.

DHE–ChP 2 REGISTRATION

DHE–ChP 2.1 To register as a student, you must satisfy Student Regulation OU 8. You must be working directly with young children up to the age of 8 (as a volunteer or in a paid capacity) part-time or full-time in an appropriate early years education or care setting for at least one day (5 hours) a week throughout the Diploma of Higher Education programme. You must follow a prescribed route through the Diploma of Higher Education modules at OU first level. You must have gained at least two years' experience working directly with young children in an appropriate setting prior to registering for the OU first level work-based learning module. There is no academic entry requirement.

DHE–ChP 2.2 To be awarded the diploma, you must ensure that your credit is linked to it. You can do this as part of the registration process, or make a separate request later.

DHE–ChP 3 CREDIT REQUIREMENT

DHE–ChP 3.1 The University will award you the Diploma of Higher Education in Childhood Practice if you have a minimum of 240 credits from approved modules, provided that:

- (a) 60 credits are from the compulsory module(s) at OU first level or the approved alternative, and 60 further credits are from the compulsory work-based module at OU first level

or:

- (b) 90 credits are in the form of an award of transferred credit made in recognition of the successful completion of a specified Higher National Certificate, and 30 further credits are from a specified, complementary OU module at OU first level

and:

- (c) 60 credits are from approved option modules at OU second level, and 60 further credits are from the compulsory work-based module at OU second level.

DHE–ChP 3.2 The Senate may permit you to qualify for the diploma if you have 240 credits, of which:

- (a) not less than 90 credits are from successfully completed Open University modules and include the compulsory work-based module at OU second level
- (b) not more than 150 are transferred credit.

DHE–ChP 3.3 The credit for this qualification must include from Open University modules a minimum amount of credit that meets the conditions of Student Regulation OU 3.3; that minimum amount is 80 credits.

DHE–ChP 4 CREDIT TRANSFER

DHE–ChP 4.1 The credit transfer scheme for the Diploma of Higher Education in Childhood Practice is governed by General Qualification Regulation GQ 6.

DHE–ChP 4.2 Any award of transferred credit towards:

- (a) the OU first level modules must take the form of general credit exemption
- (b) the approved option modules at OU second level must take the form of module exemption.

DHE–ChP 4.3 The maximum award of transferred credit towards the Diploma of Higher Education in Childhood Practice is 150 credits.

DHE–ChP 4.4 Credit transfer is not permitted against the 60-credit compulsory work-based module at OU second level.

DHE–ChP 5 DURATION OF STUDY

DHE–ChP 5.1 If you qualify for the diploma on or after 1 January 2011, the credit required from modules or any permitted credit transfer for the Diploma of Higher Education in Childhood Practice must be obtained during a period not exceeding seven years. Modules do not need to be studied consecutively.

DHE–ChP 5.2 If you qualify for the diploma on or before 31 December 2010, the seven-year time limit does not apply. Modules do not need to be studied consecutively.

DHE–ChP 5.3 Credit from particular modules may cease to be countable towards the Diploma of Higher Education in Childhood Practice at a specified point in time after their final presentation.