



DIPLOMA OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN EARLY YEARS

This is a credit-based award.

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

- [Introduction to *The Award Regulations*](#)
- [General Award Regulations](#)

If you wish to print the regulations governing your award, you are advised to print *all* these documents.

DHE–EY 1 AWARD NAME

DHE–EY 1.1 The University offers the Diploma of Higher Education in Early Years. Holders of this award are permitted to use the letters Dip HE (Open) after their names.

DHE–EY 2 REGISTRATION

DHE–EY 2.1 To register as a student, you must satisfy Student Regulation OU 8 and you must be working directly with young children aged 0 to 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 courses at Level 1. You must have gained at least two years experience working directly with young children in an appropriate setting prior to registering for the Level 1 work-based learning course. There is no academic entry requirement.

DHE–EY 2.2 To qualify for the award, you must ensure that your credit is linked to it. You can do this as part of the course registration process or make a separate request later.

DHE–EY 3 CREDIT REQUIREMENT

DHE–EY 3.1 The University will award you the Diploma of Higher Education in Early Years if you have a minimum of 240 credit points from approved courses provided that:

- 60 points are from the two compulsory courses at Level 1 or the approved alternative
- 60 points are from the compulsory work-based course at Level 1
- 60 points are from approved option courses at Level 2
- 60 points are from the compulsory work-based course at Level 2.

DHE–EY 3.2 The Senate may permit you to qualify for the award if you have 240 credit points of which:

- not less than 90 are from successfully completed Open University courses and include the compulsory work-based course at Level 2
- not more than 150 are points of transferred credit.

DHE–EY 3.3 The credit for this award must include from Open University courses a minimum amount of credit that meets the conditions of Student Regulation OU 3.3; that minimum amount is 80 points.

DHE–EY 4 CREDIT TRANSFER

DHE–EY 4.1 The credit transfer scheme for the Diploma of Higher Education in Early Years is governed by General Award regulation GA 6.

DHE–EY 4.2 Any award of transferred credit towards:

- (a) the Level 1 courses must take the form of full-rate transferred credit
- (b) the approved option courses at Level 2 must take the form of course-related credit.

DHE–EY 4.3 The maximum award of transferred credit towards the Diploma of Higher Education in Early Years is 150 points.

DHE–EY 4.4 Credit transfer is not permitted against the 60-point compulsory work-based course at Level 2.

DHE–EY 5 DURATION OF STUDY

DHE–EY 5.1 If you qualify for this award on or after 1 January 2011 the credit required from courses or any permitted credit transfer for the award of the Diploma of Higher Education in Early Years must be obtained during a period not exceeding seven years. Courses do not need to be studied consecutively.

DHE–EY 5.2 If you qualify for this award on or before 31 December 2010 the seven years time limit does not apply. Courses do not need to be studied consecutively.

DHE–EY 5.3 Credit from particular courses may cease to be countable towards the Diploma of Higher Education in Early Years at a specified point in time after their final presentation.