



ACKNOWLEDGE
EDUCATION

Graduate Diploma of Early Childhood Education

Begin your in-demand Early Childhood Teaching journey
with AE's one-year Graduate Diploma!

The Graduate Diploma of Early Childhood Education is a one-year course designed to equip you with a thorough understanding of early childhood development, pedagogy, curriculum, and the ethical and legislative requirements of the profession. You will also develop critical thinking, reflective practice, and continuous professional development skills.

CRICOS	116494J
Intakes	February, May, September
Course length	1 year
Campuses	Melbourne, Sydney, Perth, Online
Delivery mode	On-campus, Blended/Online for eligible students
Accreditation	Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency
AQF Level	8















Professional Accreditation

This course is accredited by **Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority (ACECQA)**.

Course Structure

The Graduate Diploma of Early Childhood Education is completed over three trimesters within one year of full-time study. It includes 8 core units which includes two field placements totaling 60 days, with 2-3 units per trimester. For **on-campus option**, in Trimester 1, you will attend campus one day per week. However, during the placement period in Trimester 2 and 3, you will be required to commit additional weekdays as per the placement schedule. For **blended/online option**, you will be required to attend your placement face-to-face in Trimester 2 and 3. For enrolment eligibility into the online option, please refer to our website.

Trimester 1	Trimester 2	Trimester 3
ECEC100 Foundations of Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) (6 points) 	ECEC300 Policy, Pedagogy & Curriculum for Infants and Toddlers (birth-2) (6 points) 	ECEC400 The Early Childhood Professional (6 points) 
ECEC101 Child Development (birth-5) (6 points) 	ECEC301 Curriculum Studies in Early Childhood Education & Care (STREAM) (6 points) 	PRFX401 Professional Experience II (6 points) 
ECEC200 Play in The Early Years (6 points) 	PRFX201 Professional Experience I (6 points) 	<div> <div> On-campus  Face to face  Online (Self-paced) </div> <div> Blended/Online  Online (Self-paced)  Face to face (Placement) </div> </div>

Academic Requirements - International Students

To be admitted to the Graduate Diploma of Early Childhood Education, you must have an Australian bachelor's degree (or equivalent) in any discipline.

English Requirements - International Students

If you have obtained a bachelor's degree (AQF 7) or equivalent from a country other than Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Canada, or the Republic of Ireland, you must meet one of the following minimum English language requirements:

- An overall IELTS score of 6.5 with no band score below 6.5, or
- equivalent AE English placement test

Please visit our website for the Admissions Policy for Overseas Students and Admissions Procedure for Overseas students (Higher Education and VET).

Field Education Placements

The course is structured to maximise your opportunities to become work-ready and secure employment in an Australian early childhood education centre during your studies. You will complete two 30-day placements in Trimester 2 and Trimester 3.

Professional Experience I: 30 days with preschoolers (3 to 5 years old)

Professional Experience II: 30 days with infants and toddlers (6 weeks to 2 years)

We will place students in a quality early childhood centre to ensure they learn from the best if they are studying in Melbourne, Sydney, and Perth. However, if students prefer to arrange their own placement, we make it easy for them. For all details, please talk to our Placement Coordinator. If students are studying blended/online, placements may need to be self-sourced depending on where they live.

Other requirements to be completed prior to commencing field education placements are:

- National Police Record Check
- Working with Children Check

Career Opportunities

- Early Childhood (Pre-primary School) Teacher
- Qualified Educator
- Educational Leader
- Service Director
- Area Manager
- Inclusion Support Worker
- Inclusion Support Manager
- Out of School Hours Educator
- Out of School Hours Coordinator

Nadia Di Martino
Head of Department
Early Childhood Education



"Positive childhood experiences help us thrive as adults and build fulfilling relationships. Working with children lets you contribute to this process and learn about yourself. This postgraduate diploma qualifies you as a highly sought-after Early Childhood Teacher, with growing demand as early childhood education gains global recognition."

