



Careers in...

# Childcare

Advice for Year 10 & Year 11 Pupils



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# Why Childcare?

Choosing a career in childcare is incredibly rewarding. You get to make a significant impact on children's early development, helping them learn and grow in a safe and nurturing environment. Childcare professionals play a crucial role in shaping the future by providing children with the skills and confidence they need to succeed.

Additionally, the demand for childcare professionals is high, offering job security and various career opportunities.

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## 1. Explore Career Paths in Childcare

There are numerous career paths within the childcare sector, including:

- **Early Years Teacher:** Nursery Nurse: Provide care and educational support in nurseries and pre-schools.
- **Childminder:** Offer childcare services in a home setting.
- **Teaching Assistant:** Support teachers in primary schools.
- **Play Therapist:** Use play to help children understand and express their feelings





## 2. Skills Childcare Gives You

Working in childcare helps you develop a wide range of skills, including:

- **Communication:** Effectively interacting with children, parents, and colleagues.
  - **Patience and Empathy:** Understanding and responding to children's needs.
  - **Creativity:** Designing engaging activities and learning experiences.
  - **Problem-Solving:** Addressing challenges and finding solutions.
  - **Organisational Skills:** Managing time and resources efficiently
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### 3. Subject Combinations and Education Pathways

- **At School:**

GCSEs in Child Development, Health and Social Care, Psychology, and Sociology.

- **Further Education:**

Diplomas or BTECs in Childcare, Early Years Education, or Health and Social Care.



- **Higher Education:** Degrees in Early Childhood Studies, Education, or Child Psychology.



- **Professional Development:**

Apprenticeships, NVQs, and CPD courses in childcare and education.

### What is Play Therapy?

It is a **psychotherapeutic approach** to access children's emotion and cognition through **creative play and elements** using a **special toolkit** which may include sand, arts, music, clay, puppet and guided imagery.





## 4. Childcare in the Real World

Childcare professionals work in various settings, including nurseries, schools, hospitals, and private homes. They provide essential services such as early education, emotional support, and developmental guidance. Real-world applications of childcare careers include creating safe learning environments, supporting children's social and emotional development, and collaborating with families and other professionals to ensure the best outcomes for children.



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## 5. What Can You Do Now?



### Year 10:

- **Explore Interests:** Take part in school activities related to childcare, such as volunteering in nurseries or helping with school events.
- **Research:** Look into different childcare careers and the qualifications needed.
- **Develop Skills:** Focus on building communication, teamwork, and organizational skills through extracurricular activities

### Year 11:

- **Choose Relevant Subjects:** Select GCSEs that align with your career interests in childcare.
- **Gain Experience:** Seek work experience placements in childcare settings.
- **Plan Ahead:** Start thinking about post-16 options, such as college courses or apprenticeships in childcare



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# Useful Resources

- **National Careers Service:** Offers career advice and information on childcare careers.
- **CACHE (Council for Awards in Care, Health and Education):** Provides qualifications and training in childcare.
- **UCAS:** Information on higher education courses in childcare and related fields.
- **Local Colleges and Training Providers:** Check for courses and apprenticeships in the North West of England
- **Runshaw College:**  
<https://runshaw.ac.uk/?s=childcare>
- **Newman College:**  
<https://www.cardinalnewman.ac.uk/our-courses/all-courses/item/56/health-social-care>
- **Preston College:**  
<https://www.preston.ac.uk/courses/school-leavers/childcare-and-early-years/412>