

Foundation Apprenticeship: Social Services: Children and Young People

What is a Foundation Apprenticeship?

Foundation Apprenticeships are work-based qualifications for senior phase pupils. They combine the best of academic and vocational learning in one single qualification.

Why Children and Young People?



Every child deserves the best start in life to grow up happy, healthy and confident. You can help make sure this happens.

With this Foundation Apprenticeship, you'll be prepared for a wide range of different childcare roles. Look after young children as a **nanny**, **nursery worker** or **childminder**. Organise fun activities which help young people build their self esteem as a **playworker**. Give children and their families vital support as a **social worker**.

In Scotland, over **203,000** people work in social services. The number of jobs are still growing, and there are great opportunities for progression, too.

If you enjoy communicating with others and are good at thinking on your feet this could be the career for you.

What's involved?

Our Foundation Apprenticeships can be completed over one or two years depending on your qualifications when you begin the course.

Year 1 - Starting in S5, you will complete one year of college led learning to gain a National Progression Award (NPA) in Children and Young People SCQF level 6 whilst making links with your work placement providers.

Year 2 - In S6, you will put your knowledge into practice in a real life work placement setting thus enabling you to continue your learning out of a classroom environment. Over this year, you will study a selection of SVQ 2 Children and Young People units.

How is it delivered?

All of our Foundation Apprenticeships are delivered as Virtual Classes use online technologies, such as Google Hangouts. They are studied in timetabled sessions alongside your other subject choices and will have a college lecturer in virtual attendance during the class.

You will also work closely with a local business to gain work experience.

What are the entry requirements?

3 passes at National 5. Ideally one should be a literary subject such as English, geography or psychology.

You will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the early years, childcare and playwork sector and have an interest in working in this sector.

You will be required to undertake a PVG check before being permitted to work with vulnerable groups.

Any experience in this sector will be considered and each application will be considered on a case by case basis supported by a satisfactory reference and interview.



What do I get at the end of it?

You will get a National Progression Award (NPA) in Children and Young People SCQF level 6 and 4 units from SVQ level 2 Children and Young People.

This will cover child development, safeguarding, health and safety, the wellbeing of children and young people, the importance of play and communication and how best to develop your own knowledge and practice.

You will also have been working in a children and young people's work environment during your work placement. This will allow you to see how the academic skills you gain are invaluable in the day-to-day reality of the work place.

Course progression – what's next?

On completion of the Foundation Apprenticeship, you will be able to move into employment in children's services.

With your industry skills set and knowledge of local employer's requirements, there is a huge range of different career opportunities within the day care of children services. These can include Play worker, nursery practitioner, out of school co-ordinator and nursery and family centre managers.

Alternatively you could progress onto HNC or degree levels of study which are offered by West Highland College UHI.

In addition, you will be able to work towards registration with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC).

How do I apply?

- From November, senior phase pupils choose as part of option choices
- You can apply online at www.whc/uhi.ac.uk/schools and select your chosen subject
- You will need to provide a reference from your guidance teacher.

Who do I contact?

Application is online. Speak to your guidance teacher or go to

www.whc.uhi.ac.uk/schools.

You can also email us directly at

schools.whc@uhi.ac.uk



EUROPE & SCOTLAND
European Social Fund
Investing in a Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Future