



BISHOP  
GROSSETESTE  
UNIVERSITY

# Early Childhood Studies

BA (Hons)



# Why study Early Childhood Studies at BGU?

Always wanted to work with young children (ages 0-8) but unsure on the career pathway, then this course is ideal for you.

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Flexible course covering aspects of health, education and social care.

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Strong vocational focus, including clear connections to employability and further study. Ideal for students seeking a route into teaching.

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BGU have over 150 years of experience in education and uphold an excellent and long-standing national reputation within the field.



# Hello

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# Early Childhood Studies at BGU

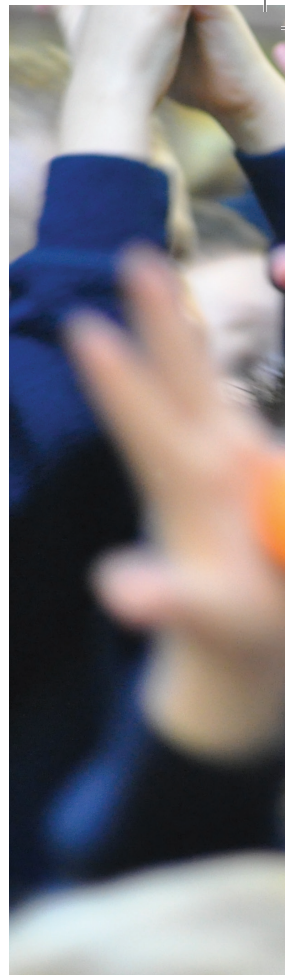
In studying Early Childhood Studies you'll have the chance to inspire the next generation of children and have a positive impact on their lives. You'll mainly focus on the educational, social and health care of children from birth to 8 years of age, gaining an appreciation of how they think and learn, as well as developing an understanding of how to facilitate learning through a range of strategies. You will have the opportunity to put your learning into practice through a relevant early years placement in each year of study.

Throughout the course, you will acquire the necessary skills for working with young

children in a challenging and changing environment. In your final year, you will be able to tailor an individual research project to your particular interests or career aspirations, and you may also be able to choose the setting of your final-year placement.

One of the advantages of this course is the flexibility and variety of topics you can study, which can lead to a wide range of options upon graduation. The course is practical and engaging, and you'll have the support of a team of knowledgeable and enthusiastic tutors, as well as experienced visiting speakers from different educational settings.

For full details of all of our courses, including combinations, module details, entry requirements and much more, visit [bishopg.ac.uk/courses](http://bishopg.ac.uk/courses)







BGU is a lovely place to be. Other universities I visited were intimidating but I chose BGU because it felt so welcoming and friendly. I can't walk anywhere without seeing someone I know, and you feel like you can talk to anyone - students or lecturers - about anything."

**Holly**

Early Childhood Studies

## KEY FACTS

**AWARD:** BA (Hons)  
Single or joint honours

**DURATION:** 3 years full-time

**START DATE:** September

**TYPICAL OFFER:**  
96 - 112 UCAS tariff points

**INSTITUTION CODE:** B38



I have an incredibly good relationship with all my tutors. They are supportive, caring and always there to help you when you need it. Nothing is too much trouble and I really feel supported.”

**Abigail**  
Early Childhood  
Studies

# Early Childhood Studies modules

At BGU you can study Early Childhood Studies as a **single** honours degree, giving you an in-depth knowledge of the subject. Depending on your year of entry, options and any potential course combinations, you may study some or all of the following modules in Early Childhood Studies at BGU.

For full details of all of our courses, including combinations, module details, entry requirements and much more, visit [bishopg.ac.uk/courses](http://bishopg.ac.uk/courses)

## Year 1

### **Philosophies, Policy and Provision**

This module includes the study of historical practice and provision for children and young people and covers the work of early social, educational and health reformers such as Froebel, Isaacs, Pestalozzi and Rousseau. You will be encouraged to question underlying philosophies of the social and political motivations for shaping policy in the provision made for children and young people.

### **Early Language and Communication**

Starting from the earliest influences on children's language development before birth, you will learn how children become confident and capable communicators, drawing upon a range of developmental, sociological and psychological theoretical perspectives. Through placement experience you will be introduced to observation as a research tool and the ethical issues which this raises when working with young children.

### **Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning**

You will develop knowledge and understanding of the cultural context of social and emotional development in children from birth to 8 years and the factors which can impact upon it. You will be introduced to a range of theoretical approaches such as Bowlby's Attachment theory, Erikson's Psychosocial theory and Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Systems theory in order to appreciate that social and emotional development is complex and can be viewed from differing perspectives.

### **Tools for Learning**

This module introduces you to some of the key theories associated with learning. Commencing with an examination of theories underpinning learning in childhood you will then have the opportunity to reflect on your own learning through the lens of adult learning theories.

## Year 2

### Perspectives on Childhood

In this module you will consider childhood within the historical timeline, looking at ways in which childhood has been influenced by key social issues such as the role of religion in society or the rise of family life in eighteenth century England. The module will consider the arguments surrounding children's rights.

### Research for Enquiry

You will be introduced to various research methodologies and approaches to develop an understanding of how research can be used to investigate provision and practice in early years. You will consider ethical issues in researching babies and young children, and consider conceptualisations of the child as subjects, objects or participants and the role of child as co-researcher.

### Health and Well-Being in Childhood

The module considers the factors affecting child well-being and health, analysing the role and influence of wider determinants such as poverty, vaccination and inoculation, abuse/neglect, diet and exercise. Measures of health and well-being will be discussed and assessed from both adult and child perspectives.

### Inclusive and Collaborative Practice

You will consider the diverse needs of young children for example in areas of disability, gender issues, race and culture, special educational and social needs, and gifted and talented children. The roles of the practitioner and the importance of inter-disciplinary working to support these needs and safeguard young children will be considered, using case histories to see how policy and practice has evolved.

### Play and Creativity

During this module, you will consider current understandings of the meaning of play and creativity and the interrelationships between them. Concepts of 'adult-led' and 'child-led' play will be explored, and you will be encouraged to evaluate current arguments about the role and function of both play and creativity especially in educational contexts.

### Approaches to Pedagogy and the Curriculum in the Early Years

This module includes the study of the holistic nature of learning, focusing in depth on guidance in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum and its relationship to Key Stage 1. You will engage in analysis and reflection and will consider the influence of the adult role in a variety of settings.

## Year 3

### Issues in the Early Years

In this module you will focus on current, and perceived future, common issues affecting children, their families and practitioners. You will be guided in researching these developments in terms of the political, economic and cultural contexts which surround them, considering the historical influences on current provision and practice.

### International Perspectives

This module will include critical analysis and comparison of international early years issues, practice and provision. A variety of issues relating to education, health and social care will be considered within historical, cultural and political contexts.

### Independent Study

This module allows you to design and conduct an in depth study of personal interest and/or related to potential future training or employment. It will enable you to contribute to the work of your placement setting, creating and leaving a 'legacy' from your research as you make the transition from 'knowledge consumer' to 'knowledge producer'.

### Managing Behaviour

This module will examine some of the causes of challenging behaviour in the early years and will identify some of the strategies for managing behaviour in early years settings and schools. You will explore the shared responsibilities of parents, professionals and support agencies, alongside government and local authority policy.

### Leadership and Management in Early Years

You will be introduced to the development of theoretical approaches to leadership and management; such as those of Drucker, Herzberg and McGregor and critique contemporary ideas such as those of Belbin, Tuckman, and Adair's functional approach to leadership analysis. Evaluation of practice appropriate to a range of settings will cover areas such as: managing and motivating teams, change management, communication and planning.



# What we offer

## Delivery

There is no one-size-fits-all method of teaching at BGU – we shape our methods to suit each subject and each group, combining the best aspects of traditional university teaching with innovative techniques to promote student participation and interactivity.

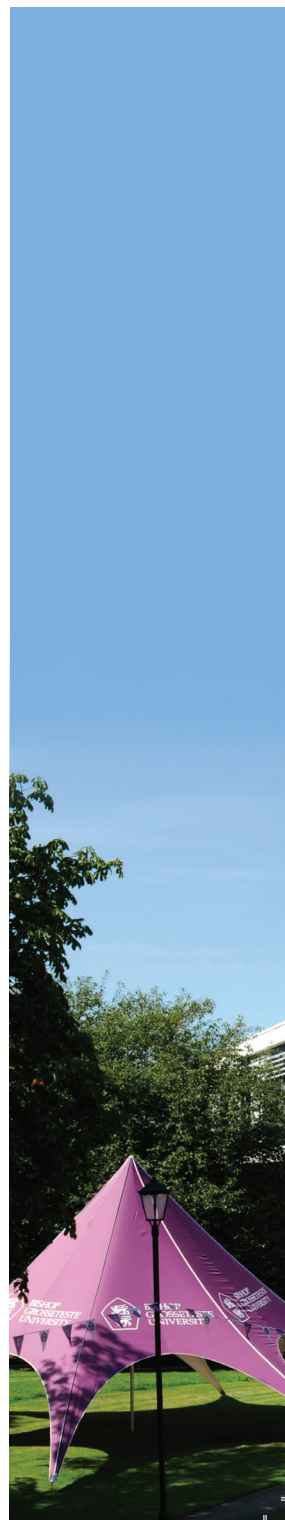
You will be taught in a variety of ways, from lectures, tutorials and seminars, to practical workshops, coursework and work-based placements. Small group seminars and workshops will provide you with an opportunity to review issues raised in lectures, and you will be expected to carry out independent study.

Placements are a key part of studying a degree at BGU. They provide an enriching learning experience for you to apply the skills and knowledge you will gain from your course and, in doing so, give valuable real-world experience to boost your career.

## Assessment

We recognise that individuals come from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences, so we use a variety of assessment strategies on our courses.

Assessments in Early Childhood Studies take place at the end of each module in order for you to demonstrate your understanding of the objectives covered. A wide range of assessment methods are used to support your learning, including the production of portfolios, presentations and displays. You'll also be assessed through written essays, discussions, debates and multimedia projects. Assessments are not only designed to assess your knowledge and understanding but also help you to develop transferable skills which will support you as you enter the early year's workforce.





### **Support**

Studying at BGU is a student-centred experience. Staff and students work together in a friendly and supportive atmosphere as part of an intimate campus community. You will know every member of staff personally and feel confident approaching them for help and advice, and staff members will recognise you, not just by sight, but as an individual with unique talents and interests. We will be there to support you, personally and academically, from induction to graduation.

“

I chose this course at BGU particularly because of the breadth of resources. I haven't seen another university with its own dedicated room to hundreds of reading books to loan for placements, and with so many academic sources on the subject of teaching. It's fantastic how much is available.”

**Chloe**

Early Childhood Studies



# Your future

Our students have excellent rates of employability when they graduate from BGU, which is great news for you as it means that you can study for a degree knowing that your future is in safe hands. Our employability rates are extremely important to us here at BGU, which is why we offer placement opportunities as an integral part of our courses.

Early Childhood is a growing sector and the skills learnt on this course will enable you to enter the children's workforce in a range of different roles. Some of our students seek a route into teaching through a PGCE qualifications here at BGU, whilst others enter other teacher training routes as well as working towards Early Years Teacher Status.

Many of our graduates have gone on to further study in areas of specialism including psychology, speech and language or midwifery, whilst others have entered the workforce as managers of early years settings. The diverse nature of this course will also enable you to go on to further study such as postgraduate study on a master degree, seeking wider opportunities in many different fields, including health and social care, children's social work, play therapy and speech and language therapy. Possible future careers for Early Childhood Studies graduates may include as a Teacher or classroom assistant, Speech and language therapy, Early years management, Social work or Play therapy.



Take a look at  
what qualities  
and skills you'll  
develop as a  
BGU student  
[bishopg.ac.uk/  
graduate-attri  
butes](https://bishopg.ac.uk/graduate-attributes)

“

I know that when the time draws nearer, BGU has a tremendous array of people I can talk to about my future who will have great advice and help me to come to the right decision. Since BGU has such a high employment rate for graduates, I know that whatever I choose to do BGU will help and support me in getting that role.”

**Rebecca**

History





## Why BGU?

Here at BGU we've been providing first-class education to students for over 150 years. We're based in the heart of historic Lincoln, a beautiful and extremely student-friendly city.

Navigating around Lincoln on foot is simple, from the cobbled streets uphill to the modern city centre and waterfront downhill.

We're located uphill on an attractive, leafy campus just a few minutes' walk from Lincoln's medieval Cathedral, Castle and Bailgate area.

With plenty of live entertainment, cultural attractions and nightlife hotspots, there's plenty to keep you entertained, uphill and downhill.

Visit [\*\*bishopgates.ac.uk/lincoln\*\*](https://www.bishopgates.ac.uk/lincoln) to find out what's on offer in Lincoln.





“

BGU was always my first choice when considering universities. Everything about it is beautiful, from the leafy green trees to red brick buildings – and everything on the inside is just amazing.”

**Sian**

English Literature

As a single-site campus, just about everything you need is close by, whether it be your tutors, your friends, your lectures or the places in which you like to relax.

Our students are some of the happiest in the UK, which is incredibly important to us. We really care about our students and aim to support them all of the way through their studies, from application to graduation.

People often say that there's something special about BGU, that the people really care. There's a warm and friendly feel to life here, and we do everything possible to look after our students however we can.

Studying as part of a close-knit community, you'll get to know staff personally and feel confident in being able to approach them for help and

Explore what we have to offer on our campus at [bishopg.ac.uk/campus](https://bishopg.ac.uk/campus)

“

I came here on an Open Day and really loved it. My first impression at the Open Day was that I really liked it because it was smaller – you go to some universities and they are really massive, scary big city campuses, but here I felt really comfortable.”

**Hayley**  
Education Studies



advice. Staff will recognise you - not just by sight but as an individual with unique talents, interests and needs. We'll be there to support you, academically and personally, from the day you start until long after you leave.

Life after BGU is extremely important and we offer many different methods

of support for your future career. This, alongside our talented graduates, is one of the reasons that we consistently achieve impressive employability figures.

This is great news for you as you'll be able to study at BGU knowing that your education is in safe hands!

There's no better way to really get a feel for what BGU has to offer than by coming to visit us. To book your place now visit **bishopg.ac.uk/opensdays**



It is not a big university, but a warm, caring, friendly one. Everything is easy to find and everyone will be happy to help. Nothing is too much trouble for anyone, they will help you with whatever you wish.”

**Abigail**

Early Childhood Studies

# What happens next?

## Open Days

So you've found a course you're interested in - what next? We feel very strongly that coming along to visit us on an Open Day is the very best way to find out everything about BGU.

A BGU Open Day is designed with you in mind, to give you a taste of what it's like to live, study and work here. We try to make everything as easy as possible for you, so you can relax and enjoy the day. You'll have the chance to explore the campus and surrounding area,

Speak to members of academic staff about the courses you're interested in, look around our accommodation, and get any questions you may have answered.

Book your place on our next Open Day now - visit **www.bishopg.ac.uk/opendays**

If you think you'd like to apply, need more information or just want to speak to somebody about your options, contact our Enquiries team by calling **01522 583658** or emailing **enquiries@bishopg.ac.uk**

**Ready to apply?** Brilliant. We can't wait to receive your application! For the majority of our courses you will apply through UCAS – visit **www.bishopg.ac.uk** for all the information you will need. And don't worry – if you need help with anything, from UCAS scores to personal statements, we're here to help. Our dedicated team are ready to answer your queries and questions.




The contents of this booklet are correct at the time of going to print (January 2020). For full and up-to-date information on all of our courses, visit **bishopg.ac.uk**



# Where are we?



## Airports close to BGU

-  Humberside
-  Doncaster
-  Nottingham East Midlands

Where	Road	Rail
Sheffield	55 miles	1hr 20m
Nottingham	39 miles	55m
Leeds	77 miles	2hrs
York	69 miles	1hr 45m
London	144 miles	2hrs



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“

If you are thinking  
of coming to BGU  
and studying early  
childhood go for it!  
If you are wanting to  
enhance knowledge on  
the holistic child this  
is certainly the best  
course. The uni as a  
whole is so supportive  
and friendly, student  
advice have helped  
me so much and I  
would also highly  
recommend checking  
them out too.”

**Melissa**

Early Childhood Studies

@BGULincoln

