

Experience-based route for early years staff key requirements

- Providers **must have** a good or outstanding Ofsted outcome to progress staff through this route (for providers of childcare on domestic premises registered with Childminder Agencies, their Agency must have achieved 'effective' or better).
- The manager of the setting, or a delegated member of staff **must have** a full and relevant level 3 qualification and at least two years' experience working in an early years setting to act as the 'assessor', This means they will supervise practice, undertake a final assessment and decide whether the practitioner has met the criteria of the Early Years Educator (EYE) to work in ratio at level 3.
- Practitioners wishing to undertake the experience-based route **must have** worked with early years children (aged 0 to 5) in an early years setting or a related sector in England, for a minimum of one year.
- Practitioners **must** already hold either:
 - a full and relevant level 2 qualification,
 - a level 3 or above qualification that is relevant to the care or education of children, but is not full and relevant, or
 - qualifications from outside England equivalent to the required level 2 or level 3 qualifications.
- Practitioners undertaking the experience-based route **must** complete a minimum of 751 to 900 hours of relevant work and supervised practice before they undergo final assessment,
- To be included in the staff:child ratio at level 3, practitioners who have achieved experience-based route status **must** also hold:
 - a suitable level 2 English qualification, and
 - a paediatric First Aid qualification, which must be renewed every 3 years.
- A practitioner's experience-based route status **will not** be automatically transferable between early years providers.
- No more than 50% of staff with experience-based route status will be able to count in ratio at level 3 at any time.