

Early Intervention Practitioner v1.1

☆ Level 4 £ £5,000 🗓 18 months

1. What the role entails

Early intervention practitioners offer practical help and emotional support to individuals experiencing a range of problems to help them overcome concerns or barriers impacting their daily lives, such as alcohol, drug or gambling misuse, behavioural issues, mobility issues and learning difficulties. Early intervention practitioners work in organisations where they provide person-centred, early intervention approaches and services to support individuals across all age ranges, from pre-birth to end of life. They provide impartial information, advice, support and guidance to individuals and others impacted by the individual's circumstances, such as their family and friends. The broad purpose of the occupation is to provide intervention services early in identified cases to help prevent a more complex, statutory-driven solution needed later. An early intervention practitioner is responsible for identifying and sourcing the right intervention at the right time in an individual's life in order to achieve mutually agreed outcomes.

Early intervention work focuses on identifying risks, listening to the individual and building relationships and trust with them and their wider network to provide timely, flexible and effective support. Adopting a collaborative, evidence-based approach, they help individuals build resilience and take ownership of their lives, often involving input from family, friends and professionals. Support may be provided from a single agency or require a co-ordinated multi-agency response. Early intervention practitioners ensure effective collaboration and appropriate information sharing between partner agencies to deliver the right help at the right time, focusing on emerging needs and preventing escalation to social care or other statutory services.

2. On-programme

Apprentices will typically spend 18 months on-programme and undertake the minimum required off-the-job training as per the apprenticeship funding rules. Apprentices must spend at least 8 months on-programme. Before entering Gateway, the apprentice must complete the following on-programme requirements:

- English and maths qualifications, if required (see DfE apprenticeship funding rules for full details)
- a Portfolio of Evidence to underpin the Professional Discussion.

3. Gateway requirements

The decision to take an apprentice through Gateway is made between the employer, Independent Training Provider (ITP) and the apprentice. The apprentice should only enter Gateway once the employer is content that the apprentice is working at or above the level of the occupational standard.

The apprentice must also have completed all the on-programme elements before they enter Gateway, including submitting a Portfolio of Evidence to underpin the Professional Discussion.

4. End-point assessment

The end-point assessment (EPA) for Early Intervention Practitioner contains two methods of assessment:



Presentation with Questions

In the Presentation with Questions, the apprentice delivers a presentation to an Independent End-Point Assessor (IEPA) on a subject. The IEPA must ask questions after the presentation. It gives the apprentice the opportunity to demonstrate the knowledge, skills and behaviours (KSBs) mapped to this assessment method.

The Presentation with Questions must last 45 minutes. This will typically include a presentation of 30 minutes and questioning lasting 15 minutes.

Grades available: fail, pass, distinction



Professional Discussion underpinned by Portfolio

In the Professional Discussion, an IEPA and apprentice have a formal two-way conversation. It gives the apprentice the opportunity to demonstrate the KSBs mapped to this assessment method.

The Professional Discussion must last for 1 hour.

Portfolio of Evidence requirements:

The apprentice must compile a Portfolio of Evidence during the on-programme period of the apprenticeship. It should only contain evidence related to the KSBs that will be assessed by the Professional Discussion.

Grades available: fail, pass, distinction

Why choose NCFE?

We are an approved Assessment Organisation (AO) specialising in EPA delivery across health, education, social care, business, active leisure and digital apprenticeship standards. NCFE offers flexible and reliable EPA solutions supported by sector expertise, guidance documents and proactive service and support.

5. Grade aggregation table

Presentation with Questions	Professional Discussion	Final Grade
Pass	Pass	Pass
Pass	Distinction	Merit
Distinction	Pass	Merit
Distinction	Distinction	Distinction

A fail in any assessment method will result in a fail overall.

6. Completion and certification

Once the IEPA verifies the apprentice has successfully completed all EPA methods, NCFE will activate certification. Working with the apprenticeship certificate issuing authority, we will ensure the apprentice receives their certificate.

7. What next?

On completion of this apprenticeship, typical routes of progression into employment include:

Assistant Senior Care Worker, Assistant Social Worker, Children's Centre Worker, Community Worker, Early Help Practitioner, Early Intervention Advisor, Early Intervention Alcohol Case Worker, Early Intervention and Prevention Worker, Family Support Worker, Lead Reablement Worker, Pastoral and School Inclusion Officer.

NCFE also offer a range of complimentary social care apprenticeships that may provide suitable routes for further education and training at a higher level or in a more specialised capacity, including:

Level 4 Lead Practitioner in Adult Care, Level 5 Leader in Adult Care, Level 4 Children, Young People and Families Practitioner, and Level 5 Children, Young People and Families Manager.

