



CHILDMINDING

CLASSROOM ASSISTANT

WORKING WITH CHILDREN

EARLY YEARS

PLAYWORK

EARLY YEARS, CARE,
EDUCATION AND PLAY
EMPLOYERS' FORUM
NORTHERN IRELAND

WANT A CAREER WORKING WITH CHILDREN?

Qualifications and pathway for careers working with children

Early Years	Playwork	Childminding	Classroom Assistant
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 2 & Level 3 CCLD; • Level 5 CCLD; • Foundation Degree in Early Childhood Studies; • BA Hons Degree in Early Childhood Studies. <p>Other entry routes Social Work; Midwifery; Nursing; Health Visiting; Teacher training. (along with at least 2 years relevant experience)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 2 and Level 3 Playwork; • Level 3 Transitional Award in Playwork from Early Years; • Level 5 Playwork (Recommended); • Level 5 CCLD; • Playwork Degree. <p>Other entry routes Social Work; Midwifery; Nursing; Health Visiting; Teacher training (along with at least 2 years relevant experience)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No qualification required <p>Under minimum standards there are some mandatory courses to be undertaken which include: Paediatric First Aid; Health and Safety; Safeguarding</p> <p>You are encouraged to undertake Level 2 or 3 CCLD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 2 and Level 3 Specialist Support in Teaching and Learning in Schools.
To work in....			
Tends to be working with children up to School age in: Day Care; playgroup; pre-school, creches; sure starts; developmental programmes for 2-3 year olds; afterschool's setting.	Tends to be working with children of primary school age in: Day Care; afterschool clubs; and; playcentres.	Tends to be working with children of all ages in: a home environment. (a registration process is required)	Tends to be working with children of all ages in a Pre-school, Primary School and Secondary School setting
(including special educational needs, and Irish medium settings)			

APPRENTICESHIPNI AND TRAINING FOR SUCCESS

ApprenticeshipNI is a work-based programme which offers:

- recognised training and qualifications to new and existing employees aged 16 and over;
- across a wide range of occupational areas;
- includes the early years and playwork sectors;
- Level 2 and Level 3 both offered.

An apprenticeship can provide the training and qualifications needed to progress your career.

Funding for Apprenticeships training costs are provided by the Department for the Economy (DfE).

Higher Level Apprenticeships are also being developed for the Sector providing funded access to a Level 5 Qualification

The Training for Success programme is all about:

- giving participants the tools and the confidence to find work or get into higher education
- designed for school leavers aged for 16 and 17
- extended eligibility for persons under 22 years with a disability, or under 24 years for persons from a care background

provides participants with the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised qualification, as well as practical.

CASE STUDIES

Mia (18 from Bangor) – now working as a Classroom Assistant in Special Educational Needs school

My name is Mia. I kind of liked school and did ok there. Got my Maths and English – that was the main thing!! My kid sister didn't fancy it as much. She was always getting into trouble and being cheeky to the teachers. I think it was because she couldn't do the work. Anyway, turned out she had dyslexia! Alison came into her class on Monday, Wednesday and Friday to help her .. WOW. What a difference! She did ok in her English in the end – not as good as me like....!

Anyway, when my careers teacher asked me what I wanted to do – I thought of Alison and said – I'd like to do that. I went to college at night and did my Specialist Support in Teaching and Learning Course (Classroom Assistants course to you and me) and now I work term time in a Primary School around the corner from me. It's spot on. When I have kids – and they go to school – I hope if they have problems – they have an Alison as wellor hold on a minute.....a 'me' as well!!!!

Mary (46 from Strabane) - working as a Childminder

My name is Mary. My friends call me Mary Poppins! That's because I mind children!! If you'd told me when I was 16 that that's what I'd be doing when I was 30 – I wouldn't have believed them – but there you go! I was actually working in retail when I finished school. I did my 'A' Levels and got a job in retail. Was doing alright there as a trainee manager – I actually enjoyed going to work! Then when I had my kids – I decided to come out of work to raise them – at least for the first few years! After Sara, our second child, my friend said to me about becoming a registered childminder. She had two kids as well – around the same age – and she really wanted to get back to work. I talked to a woman down my street who was a childminder and she put me in touch with the Northern Ireland Childminding Association. They explained to me how to go about getting registered and the benefits of staying at home with my own kids and earning some money as well - they were really helpful. Even though there were times when I thought 'maybe not!!' they were a great help – and got me all the training that I needed to be a childminder!! Me – back to school!!!

Anyway – that was 6 years ago. I now have 6 kids most of the time – and I love it. No two days are the same! I'm self-employed – so I get to be my own boss and be around for my kids. I get on really well with the parents too, and – well I think it keeps me young!!

Jordan (22 Belfast) – working in school age sector

Jordan here – let me tell you a bit about myself!

I left school when I was 16. Did all right in my GCSE's but wasn't sure what I wanted to do I just knew I didn't want to stay on at school. I was in the Scouts and became a helper on club nights and when we went camping. Called in to an open day at my local training organisation and someone said about this thing called Playwork! Sounded a bit like what I did in the Scouts! Signed up and I haven't looked back. I did my Level 2 and was in a placement in an afterschool's. Kids were a bit mad sometimes, but I really enjoyed it. Although it's good fun playing and helping them play. I see now how important it is – it's like serious!! I'm now a room supervisor but we all work really well together ... we are like a big team!!

Peter (42 from Newry) - working in a Day Nursery

Hi, I'm Peter, from an early age I was called Peter Pan, as I had a natural rapport with children. However, it wasn't until I was 15 and having recently been diagnosed with epilepsy that I realised what I wanted to do. My neurologist asked me what line of work I wanted to do? I replied, "to work with children", his response was that due to my epilepsy that I never would! So, to prove him wrong that summer I volunteered in a Special Needs Summer Scheme and in the first half an hour of working with the children, I knew I was hooked. This was what I wanted to do every day! So, I left school after my GCSEs (I did enough to get back for A-Levels but wanted to begin learning more about childcare). I completed my NVQ Level 2 in Childcare, then my NVQ Level 3, gaining experience working with children aged 8 weeks to 18 throughout. My aunt was a Playgroup Leader and I did a lot of my placement there and went on to be the Leader of this group, and I still hope to be as knowledgeable and amazing as my aunt. For the last 26 years I have worked with children, it is an amazing sector to be involved in. I have loved each day, even the challenging days because when you see a child progressing you know the positive impact you have had on the child and that this will help them in the future. I have gone onto SRC and completed my QCF Level 5 Leadership and Management Course and a BTEC Level 7 Unit in Strategic Leadership and Management. Currently, I am a Daycare Manager supporting my staff in delivering high quality early years care and education to our children and families. It is a privileged position to be in and one which is hard work, fun, spontaneous and rewarding.

What are the next steps?

Depending on the area/s you would like to specialise in, contact the organisation below who will be able to help you get started on your journey.

Organisation	Areas of speciality	Contact
NICMA – the childminding association	Childminding	www.nicma.org
Early Years – the organisation for children and young people	Early Years	www.early-years.org
Playboard NI	Playwork/School Age Childcare	www.playboard.org
Altram	Irish Medium	www.altram.org
Education Authority	Classroom Assistant	www.eani.org.uk
Childcare partnerships	Information and support to childcare providers, parents and employers.	http://childcarepartnerships.hscni.net/
Department for Economy (DfE)	Government training programmes	www.economy-ni.gov.uk

EARLY YEARS, CARE,
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EMPLOYERS' FORUM
NORTHERN IRELAND



Part-time study to full-time career.



Part-time study gives you greater control over your learning journey. At Ulster we have a broad range of subject areas which are designed with convenience and flexibility in mind.

Part-time study areas offered at Ulster:

Business and Management
Accounting
Finance and Investment (Including the new BSc (Hons) Financial Technology offered as part of a HLA)
Computing and Engineering
Community Development / Community Youth
Biomedical Science
Sports Coaching and Performance
Law
Football coaching and Business Management
Art
History
Irish
Sociology
Social Policy

Studying part-time offers great benefits:

- Gain professional experience and earn while you learn
- A range of teaching options; on campus, online or a combination of both.
- Receive the same dedicated support as full-time students
- Full access to all facilities
- Finance options

For part-time study students, finance options are available to suit your circumstances:

- Pay your tuition fees up front* or in monthly instalments
- Tuition fees loans available

More info

ulster.ac.uk/study/part-time

* If you pay the full cost of your annual fees at enrolment you will receive a 5% discount.

The Careers Service – Supporting Students and Parents at Results Time

AS / A Levels Results - Thursday 15 August 2019
GCSE Results - Thursday 22 August 2019

Once you receive your results you may have important decisions to make, and the Careers Service is here to guide and advise you.

Contacting a Careers Adviser

The Careers Service has a team of professionally qualified careers advisers who offer impartial careers information, advice and guidance to people of all ages. You can:

- chat to an adviser via webchat: www.nidirect.gov.uk/services/chat-with-a-careers-adviser
- or telephone an adviser on 0300 200 7820

Please note: Careers Advisers will be available from 9.00am to 7.00pm to provide support to students and their parents on Thursday and Friday the 15 and 16 August for A-Level students, and Thursday and Friday the 22 and 23 August for GCSE students.

Social Media

You can follow us on:

- Facebook: www.facebook.com/skillstosucceedni
- Twitter: https://twitter.com/Economy_NI

Online Help

To help you explore your options, the Careers Service also has lots of useful information available on the NI Direct website. To find out more, please go to:

- Results: www.nidirect.gov.uk/campaigns/results
- Options after year 12: www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/options-after-year-12
- Options after year 14: www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/options-after-year-14

More useful links:

Careers Service	www.nidirect.gov.uk/campaigns/careers
CCEA	Helpline 028 9026 1260 / website ccea.org.uk/
Universities and Colleges Admission Service (UCAS)	search.ucas.com/
University of Ulster	www.ulster.ac.uk/
Queen's University Belfast	www.qub.ac.uk/
Stranmillis University College	www.stran.ac.uk/
St Mary's University College	www.smucb.ac.uk/
Open University	www.open.ac.uk/northern-ireland/
Training programmes / Apprenticeships	www.nidirect.gov.uk/information-and-services/looking-work/training-programmes
Student Finance NI	www.studentfinancenl.co.uk/
Education Maintenance Allowance	www.nidirect.gov.uk/contacts/contacts-az/education-maintenance-allowance-helpline
Jobs and Benefits Offices	www.nidirect.gov.uk/contacts/jobs-benefits-offices-jobcentres-and-social-security-offices



CREAGH ACADEMY

CREAGH

- Full Training
- Competitive Salary
- Full time Employment



As a result of continued growth, we are offering enthusiastic and dynamic individuals a career in construction

A total of 12 applicants will be chosen to join the **Creagh Academy** which will involve a twelve-week training programme, starting in September 2019.

This programme is made up of classroom training by a fully qualified lecturer and highly skilled mentoring from our experienced staff. Training will take place at the company premises in Toomebridge and will be delivered by Belfast Metropolitan College as well as experts within the construction industry.

On completion of the **Academy** successful trainees will be offered employment in one of the following trainee roles:

- Sales Estimator
- CAD Technician
- Site Engineer
- Production Supervisor
- Site Supervisor
- Quality Technician
- Production Planner
- Site Planner
- Logistics Planner

CRITERIA :

- A minimum of 16 years old.
- Have 5 GCSE's at grade 'A to C' or equivalent.
- Preferably working towards or completed a qualification in a construction or I.T. discipline.

TO APPLY :

To apply for a position, please complete an application form, which may be:

Downloaded from our website at:

www.creaghconcrete.co.uk

Requested by telephone on: 028 7944 9960

Requested by emailing:

recruitment@creaghconcrete.com

Closing Date:

Monday 2nd September 2019



Creagh Concrete Products Ltd.
is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.

INNOVATION IN CONCRETE



Be part of something exciting



What's on Offer

- Links to jobs
- Help with CVs/applications
- Range of FREE training courses
- Workshops & taster sessions

**network
personnel**
Together Towards Employment



networkpersonnel.org.uk

UP FOR WORK

THIS IS FREE FOR ANYONE WHO IS AGED 16-24 AND NOT IN EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION OR TRAINING (OR WORKING UNDER 16 HOURS PER WEEK) IN THE MID ULSTER DISTRICT COUNCIL AREA.

What's on offer:

HELP TO FIND WORK

- Job search - making contact with local employers
- CV building / updating
- Application form support
- Interview skills
- Work placements

WORKSHOPS & TASTER SESSIONS

- Photography
- Arts & Crafts
- Graphics
- Cooking
- Mindfulness
- Money Management
- Safe Driving
- Skin & beauty
- Make-up application

RANGE OF FREE TRAINING COURSES

- CSR
- First Aid
- Food Hygiene
- Retail
- Customer Service
- Manual Handling
- Vocational Skills
- Beauty Therapy
- Business Administration
- Essential Skills



For more information on Up For Work, please get in touch with us on **028 7962 8113** or email info@networkpersonnel.org.uk

We have offices in Cookstown, Dungannon & Magherafelt

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networkpersonnel.org.uk



Department for the
Economy
www.economy-ni.gov.uk



Comhairle Ceantair
**Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster**
District Council

This project is part funded through the Northern Ireland European Social Fund Programme 2014-2020 and the Department for the Economy.

Additional places for NI/EU students have been made available by DfE this year so we are in a position to now consider more applications. Students should definitely give us a call on our Helpline 028 7028 7028 to find out if we can offer them a place on one of our courses listed in Clearing. Even if they do not meet the entry requirements for their chosen programme in Clearing, we may still be able to consider them for a place. They can also make an enquiry through the Clearing Enquiry form: <https://www.ulster.ac.uk/clearing/ni-eu/contact>

Our [Clearing website](#) lists a wide range of courses that students can still apply for – many in highly sought-after career areas that will undoubtedly enhance their career prospects.

Do you have students who:

- have applied for a course in GB but now want to stay at home?
- didn't do as well as expected?
- haven't applied to university at all?

With the financial benefits of studying and staying in Northern Ireland it makes sense for students to consider their options and make fully informed decisions before embarking on the next stage of their education.

Next Steps

All they need to do is visit our website www.ulster.ac.uk/clearing to view all course vacancies. **Many courses will offer a reduction in grades***. Students may contact our Admissions Team via the Helpline on 028 7028 7028 or by completing our [Clearing Enquiry Form](#) to gauge eligibility.

Please follow the following link, <https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/publications/northern-ireland-skills-barometer-2019-update> click on down loads and share with your son/daughter . This info shows projected job trends up to 2025 in NI which may assist them with their future career decision making. HTC Careers Dept.

As we approach the busy August results period I thought it might be useful to remind you of some of the options that are available to students at Northern Regional College. I would also like to highlight that College staff are on hand to support any student who might be considering alternative course options, or indeed if you would like to talk to us on their behalf.

As an excellent alternative to university we offer Higher Education courses including Foundation Degrees, Higher Level Apprenticeships and Higher National Diplomas. Most of these courses offer good progression routes to university and include some exemptions. Students can also apply directly to the College without affecting their UCAS application (except for the full-time Foundation Degree in Early Childhood Studies which will be available in UCAS Clearing).

In addition to our GCSE and A Level equivalent courses we also have a range of training and apprenticeships from Food and Beverage Service, Hairdressing, Barbering and Health and Social Care. Details of all our courses are on our website www.nrc.ac.uk.

Below are our enrolment days where students can come along and talk to us!

Higher Education Enrolment Day – Thursday 15 August – 9am to 6pm

Further Education/Training/Apprenticeship Enrolment Day – Thursday 22 August – 9am to 6pm

For further details about our enrolment days please visit - <https://www.nrc.ac.uk/your-application/enrolment-days>

More information on part-time study at Ulster can be found here - <https://www.ulster.ac.uk/study/part-time>.

Students can apply directly to the University for all part-time courses using our online form - <https://srssb.ulster.ac.uk/PROD/bwskalog.P DispChoices>