Leicester College

Support in Teaching and Learning Diploma level 3

Course Overview

Targeted at students aged 19 and over, this course provides an in-depth understanding of the knowledge and skills needed when working directly with children and young people in school and college environments. It covers all aspects of specialist support, including planning; delivering and reviewing assessment strategies to support learning alongside the teacher; bilingual support; special needs support; and personal development and reflective practice. As you need to show competence in both skills and knowledge, you will need to be working or be on a practical placement during the taught programme of study in a learning environment (school or college). You will attend college one full day per week and have two full days' placement per week. We would advise you to apply early in the year for a September 2025 start as the course can become oversubscribed very quickly. Applications are accepted from October 2024 for the following September.

What you will learn

The CACHE (Council for Awards in Care, Health and Education) level 3 Diploma in Supporting Teaching and Learning course covers all aspects of support including planning, delivering and reviewing assessment strategies to support learning alongside the teacher. You will be required to complete 16 mandatory units ranging from learning about schools and colleges as organisations; health and safety; safeguarding; professional relationships; children and young people's development; behaviour management; English and maths; assessment for learning; and supporting speech and language development.

Entry Requirements

Entry to this course requires one reference. It is desirable that you can demonstrate 90% attendance at your last place of study or work. You must have a grade C/ 4 or above in English to start the course (or Functional Skills level 2). Math's at GCSE grade is also preferable, however, it is acceptable for this to be studied in the year alongside the level 3 teaching assistant programme. Please be aware that the Department for Education states that those working in education must have both English and maths at level 2; that is either GCSE grade C or Functional Skills level 2.

How you will be assessed

Assessments are undertaken using a variety of productive methods, which may include observations, written evidence, oral questions, and witness testimonies. For these assessments, you will be allocated an assessor who will examine your practical work.

Course Fees

All students aged 19 years+ will need to pay £40 for the Disclosure and Barring Services (DBS) check, which is a requirement in order to complete the mandatory work placement element of this course. Other costs will be discussed on an individual basis with you.

Course Progession

This qualification allows you to progress to higher-level teaching assistant (HLTA) status, relevant foundation degrees and full degrees, or into a career within the industry. It will enable you to work as a level 3 teaching assistant, learning support assistant, cover supervisor, parent support adviser or similar roles in the school environment.

What Happens Next

Apply online via the College website. You will need details of your qualifications and employment history, a reference, and a personal statement to complete your application. Once your application has been successfully processed, you will be sent a conditional offer and be invited to an interview at the College to meet your tutors, learn more about your chosen course of study and tour the facilities. You will then need to confirm your acceptance of the course offered to you.

Course Details



