

PEARSON BTEC EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Pre-Induction Task 2026



Summary of Health and Social care

The Pearson BTEC AAQ in Early Childhood Development is a Level 3 qualification designed for students interested in children's learning, care, and development from birth to eight years old. The course

combines theory and practical skills, covering areas such as physical, intellectual, emotional, and social development, safeguarding and child protection, play and learning, and reflective practice. Students study important child development theories, the role of play in learning, and how to create safe and supportive environments for children.

Assessment includes both exams and coursework, helping students build communication, research, observation, and professional skills. The qualification supports progression into higher education and careers such as teaching, childcare, nursing, social work, and early years education.

Unit 1-Children's Development

Task 1: Define It Clearly: Write your own definitions for the following terms. Try to explain them simply but accurately and then explain how these two terms are different from each other and give one example of each from a child's early life.

- Growth:

- Development:

Task 2: Development Principles Matching Match the development principle to the correct explanation.

Development Principle	Explanation
Cephalo-caudal	A. Children gain control from the core of the body outward
Proximal-distal	B. Children develop head control first, then control of shoulders and legs
Gross to fine motor	C. Larger movements come before more precise ones
Interrelated development	D. Changes in one area affect other areas of development
Unique rates	E. Children develop in the same sequence but at different speeds

Task 3: Define it clearly: Write your own definitions for the following terms. Then give me a list of activities that help promote each motor skill. First one has been provided for you.

	Fine Motor Skills	Gross Motor Skills
Define:		

Activity 1	Feeding the fish	Dancing
Activity 2		
Activity 3		
Activity 4		
Activity 5		

Task 4: Match the correct definitions:

Nurture Genes are the main influence on developmental potential

Nature The environment is the main influence on developmental potential

List factors that affect a child's development:

Nature	Nurture
Down Syndrome	Poverty
	Diet and nutrition

Task 5:

Define and explain: P _____ I _____ L _____ E _____
S _____.

Development area:	Question:	Answer
Physical	Describe how a toddler's physical development progresses between ages 1 and 3 years with respect to gross and fine motor skills.	
Intellectual/cognitive	Imagine you are observing a 5-year-old playing with a puzzle. Describe how this activity could help develop their reasoning, problem-solving and memory skills.	
Language	How might a child with English as an additional language (EAL) experience challenges in language development?	
Emotional	How can you build a child's self-esteem, self-image and confidence in a nursery setting?	

Social	How can an Early Years Practitioner promote and model appropriate behaviour?	
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Unit 3 Play and Learning

Play in early years settings has been shaped by a range of approaches and theorists. You need to consider the key theorists and curriculum approaches that have influenced the way in which play is provided in many settings.

Task 6: You need to write a report on the following theorists, explaining what their theoretical perspectives of learning and development are.

This needs to be a maximum of half a page for each theorist:

Piaget

Vygotsky

Bruner

Athey

Froebel