



## OP4310 Certificate in Early Childhood Practice *(closed to new enrolments)*

### Why is OP4310 Certificate in Early Childhood Education and Care closing?

Following NZQA's Mandatory Review of Qualifications, all institutions can no longer offer their own versions of qualifications. Open Polytechnic is therefore required to close this qualification. Open Polytechnic will offer a NZQA approved level 4 ECE certificate programme leading to the award of the NZ Certificate in Early Childhood Education and Care (Level 4).

### Why do I have to complete my programme of study by December 2019?

We're closing OP4310 Certificate in Early Childhood Practice (Level 4) due to NZQA's Mandatory Review of Qualifications. However, you have until December 2019 to complete the requirements for this programme with the last offering of 4302 in block 6 June 2019.

### If you are closing OP4310 Certificate in Early Childhood Practice will my qualification still be recognised?

Yes, your qualification will continue to be recognised by NZQA and employers. The Ministry of Education has announced a level 4 ECE qualification will become mandatory for Homebased educators. A deadline for the qualification requirement is yet to be announced.

---

### What if I can't complete all of my courses on time?

There are transition arrangements that allow Students who have completed OP4301 Early Childhood Context in the Open Polytechnic Certificate in Early Childhood Practice (level 4) to be awarded cross credit for EDU403 Early Childhood Practice for Children's Wellbeing and be eligible to enrol in EDU404 Understanding Young Children' Learning and Development.

For those who have completed OP4302 Early Childhood Professional Practice (level 4) will be awarded cross credit for EDU404 Understanding young children's Learning and Development, and will be eligible to enrol in EDU405 Professional Practice for Early Childhood Education and Care.

### Can I transfer from OP4310 Certificate in Early Childhood Practice (Level 4) into NZ2850 NZ Certificate in Early Childhood Education and Care (Level 4)?

Students currently enrolled in OP4310 Open Polytechnic Certificate in Early Childhood Practice have until December 2019 to complete the programme. The final offering of 4302 is June 2019.

If students wish to transition to the new qualification contact Open Polytechnic at **0508 650 200** or [customerservices@openpolytechnic.ac.nz](mailto:customerservices@openpolytechnic.ac.nz)

**Information  
about replacement  
qualification on  
reverse**



# NZ2850 NZ Certificate in Early Childhood Education and Care *(new qualification)*

## Why should I enrol in this programme?

This programme of study has been developed in consultation with the New Zealand Homebased Early Childhood Education Association and Barnardos New Zealand to ensure it meets the requirements of the homebased ECE sector. By gaining the New Zealand Certificate in Early Childhood Education and Care (Level 4), you will meet the Ministry of Education requirement for homebased educators to hold a level 4 ECE qualification. The qualification will also support entry into the New Zealand Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care (Level 5).

## How long will it take me to complete the NZ Certificate in Early Childhood Education and Care?

The Certificate programme is 60 credits consisting of three 20 credit courses. You will enrol in one course at a time.

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
EDU403	Early Childhood Practice for Young Children's Wellbeing	20
EDU404	Understanding Young Children's Learning and Development	20
EDU405	Professional Practice for Early Childhood Education and Care	20

## Do I need a computer and internet access to complete this course?

The programme is specifically designed for distant learners and is delivered on the Open Polytechnic iQualify learning platform. Students will need to access a computer, tablet, or smart phone with internet, MS word and email to study this programme.

## Do I need to work or volunteer in an early childhood service?

Yes, you will be required to work or volunteer a minimum of 3 hours per week in a Licensed or Certificated Service including either a homebased ECE service, Centre based, Kohunga reo, Play Centre, Kindergarten or certificated play group.

## When and how can I enrol?

This is an open enrolment programme which means students can enrol any time. Enrol online at [openpolytechnic.ac.nz](http://openpolytechnic.ac.nz) You will be required to submit a Request for Police Vetting Form and Notification of Workplace Setting Form and verified identity documents.

## How much will it cost?

Open Polytechnic is offering this course fee free to members of the NZ Homebased Childcare Association. If you are not a member of the NZ Homebased Childcare Association the course fee for each course is \$485 plus an annual \$60 administration fee.

***If I take up the Open Polytechnic fee free offer for NZ Homebased Childcare Association will I be eligible for the government free fee if I go on to study at a higher level.***

Any student who has already used 60 credits is ineligible for govt fee free. A student who is eligible for govt fee free would use 60 credits for level 4 and have 60 left to use towards a degree or other study.

## How do I receive my certificate once I have successfully completed all three courses?

On completion of EDU405 apply to Open Polytechnic for the New Zealand Certificate in Early Childhood Education and Care (Level 4). The Open Polytechnic will post the Certificate to the student directly.