

School of Education  
BA (Hons) Childhood,  
Culture and Education



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Study the most exciting, unpredictable  
and stimulating subject of all: the child.

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A degree in Childhood, Culture and Education will allow you to think about the answers to these and many other important questions.

Our BA (Hons) in Childhood, Culture and Education is an exciting and challenging social science subject. It is designed for students who are interested in studying about young people and their families in the fields of education and childhood.

Is it more important to be popular with friends, than do well in school?  
Why does the government say that 'every child matters'?  
Do boys' brains work differently to girls' brains?  
Why on average do female graduates earn less than male graduates?  
When are children at risk?

## The course draws upon the main disciplines of Education: Psychology, Sociology, History and Philosophy, as well as important areas of the Curriculum and Education Practice.

You will develop a critical knowledge and understanding of childhood development and learning; of the social and cultural construction of childhood; of social policy designed for children and professional contexts and perspectives.

You will also have an opportunity to complete a period of work placement where you will be able to work with children to put the knowledge and skills you have learned into practice. You will also complete an individual dissertation on a subject of your choice and have the opportunity to negotiate your choice of work placement.

At Birmingham you will be taught by academics who are working at the frontiers of their subject area to enhance our knowledge of issues such as childhood and education. Our research excellence was recognized in the latest Research Assessment Exercise where we achieved a grade 5, given to research of international significance. This research influences the teaching that takes place at Birmingham as you are taught by academics who are global experts in their fields, whose research interests directly influence the content of our programmes. Our teaching was also rated excellent by the Higher Education Funding Council for England in their assessment of teaching quality in UK universities.

### Programme details

The BA (Hons) in Childhood, Culture and Education has three levels of study with 120 credits available at each level. Our programme is organised along six main themes: Sociology, Psychology, Historical Studies, Curriculum and Practice and Research and Professional skills. Modules at Levels 1 and 2 provide opportunities for you to experience each of these themes. At Level 3 our modules are all optional which will allow you to focus on the themes which interest you most. The modules we offer include:

### Sociology

- Equality and diversity in childhood: Children, Families and Society
- Gender and Education
- Comparative Education

### Psychology

- Child development
- Social Psychology
- Cultural Psychology

### Historical Studies

- Schooling: a social and cultural history
- Outcast children: a history of moral panics

### Curriculum and Practice

- Representing Childhood
- The child in 19th and 20th Century literature
- Children as Citizens
- Exploring Autistic Spectrum Disorders

### Professional and Research Skills

- Skills Development
- Researching childhood
- Placement

The School of Education is part of the University of Birmingham, College of Social Sciences. This enables our students to come into contact with a large range of other social science students. At Levels 2 and 3, we offer our students the option of taking an elective module in another Social Science area; modules on offer might include Youth Culture and Society, Social Inclusion and The Media and Society.

### Careers

Employment prospects for our graduates are very good. The BA (Hons) in Childhood, Culture and Education will help you develop the skills, knowledge and understanding relevant to the expanding employment opportunities available in the fields of education, social services and community/project work for children and young people.

It is specifically designed for students who have a strong interest in supporting and working alongside children and their families. The degree will also appeal to applicants who already have experience of working with children and families and wish to secure further qualifications to enhance their future career prospects. Employment opportunities (after a further period of professional training) are likely to include teaching (primary and secondary); educational psychology; community education; education administration in local or national government; social work; community work and play work; arts and museum education or educational journalism.

### Entry requirements

Acceptable qualifications for 2008:

- GCE A levels (normally at BBB, 300 tariff points or higher)  
\*General Studies is accepted
- Full Access to Higher Education certificate (including GCSE equivalent in English)  
\*18 Credits at Level 3 and the remainder at Level 2 (old scheme – pre 1/9/04)  
\*54 credits at Level 3 and the remainder at Level 2 (new scheme – post 1/9/04)
- Relevant BTEC National or Higher National qualifications (DDM)
- International Baccalaureate (31 points)

This programme operates a flexible entry scheme that means a wide range of qualifications and prior learning experiences (APEL/APL) can be considered by the Admissions Tutor. Candidates over 21 without standard entry requirements may be considered through the Mature Entry procedure. Any queries about APEL/APL or Mature Entry should be addressed in the first instance to the Admissions Tutor. A satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau check is an additional entry requirement.

