

CHILD PSYCHOLOGY COURSE – LEVEL 3 AWARD



The **Child Psychology – Level 3 Course** is designed for people who wish to gain an understanding of Child Psychology and the development of children.

On successful completion of the course you will receive a recognised level 3 award (Comparable to working at A Level or NVQ Level 3).

Objectives:

At the end of the course students will develop:

- An awareness of psychological approaches to the understanding of child development.
- A recognition of the application of developmental psychology to certain aspects of child care and education.
- An awareness of different methodological approaches to psychological investigation.
- A range of skills in using psychological methods.

The Course Includes the Following 20 Units:-

➤ **Unit One - The First Year of Life**

The following topics are covered: Infant reflexes; Social development during the first year of life including the social smile and onset of fear of strangers.

➤ **Unit Two - The Formation of Attachments**

The following topics are covered: Imprinting; Attachment (Bowlby) including cross-cultural studies; Harlow and surrogate mothers; Relevance of animal studies in child development.

➤ **Unit Three - Consequences of Breakdowns in Attachments**

The following topics are covered: Maternal deprivation; Implications of theories of attachment and maternal deprivation when placing children with surrogates.

➤ **Unit Four - The Home, Family and School**

The following topics are covered: Group vs. family care and studies of effects of maternal employment and father absent families; Importance of peers and siblings.

➤ **Unit Five - Basic Principles of Research Methods**

The following topics are covered: Nature and purpose of research, what is an experiment, supporting and refuting hypotheses, independent and dependent variables, control of variables, standardised instructions and procedures, methods of sampling, design of investigations.

Price:
£250.00

Instalment Options:
You can spread the payments for this course over 4 monthly payments. 1 initial payment of £100.00, followed by 3 monthly payments of £50.00.

Course Format:
Paper Based Course Materials

Assessment:
Coursework

Approximate Study Time:
100 Hours of Self Study

➤ **Unit Six - The Development of Visual Perception**

The following topics are covered: Introduction to the nature/nurture debate on visual perception; Fantz – form perception; Gibson and Walk – depth perception; how the physiology of the human visual system helps us judge depth and distance; Bower – size constancy; animal experiments on early sensory deprivation.

Tutor-marked Assignment A

➤ **Unit Seven - The Development of Language and Communication**

The following topics are covered: Development of non-verbal communication in humans, gestures etc; comparisons with non-human primates; outline of language development in humans; including naturalistic observational in humans; including naturalistic observational studies and criticisms of these; Innate and reinforcement theories.



➤ **Unit Eight - Intelligence and Intelligence Testing**

The following topics are covered: Definitions of intelligence; mental age and IQ; Tests of intelligence; Advantages and disadvantages of IQ testing.

➤ **Unit Nine - The Nature/Nurture Debate in the Study of Intelligence**

The following topics are covered: Twins studies; stability of IQ; Are early experiences decisive for later development?

➤ **Unit Ten - Data Collection and Interpretation**

The following topics are covered: Tables and histograms, correlation and scattergrams; Mean; Range; Drawing conclusions from data.

➤ **Unit Eleven - How Children Think**

The following topics are covered: Piaget's theory of cognitive development; including studies of egocentrism and criticisms of his work. **Tutor-marked Assignment B**

➤ **Unit Twelve - Learning Theory – How Behaviour is Acquired**

The following topics are covered: Learning and conditioning – classical conditioning and operant conditioning; including explanations of extinction, discrimination and generalisation; positive and negative reinforcement; Social Learning Theory and criticisms.

➤ **Unit Thirteen - Freud's Psychodynamic Theory – An Alternative Approach**

The following topics are covered: Personality structure, 5 stage theory, criticisms.

➤ **Unit Fourteen - Moral Development**

The following topics are covered: Definition in psychological terms; investigation of moral behaviour, moral feelings and moral judgement.

➤ **Unit Fifteen - The Development of Gender Roles**

The following topics are covered: Sex-typing; Gender identity; Biological, social and cultural theories.

➤ **Unit Sixteen - Aggression in Children**

The following topics are covered: Biological basis of aggression; Psychological theory and aggression; Aggression as a learned response; Imitation of aggression; viewing violence; Punishment for aggression; sex differences in aggression.

➤ **Unit Seventeen - Methods Used in Child Development Research**

The following topics are covered: Observational, Survey, Correlational, Experimental – advantages and disadvantages. **Tutor-marked Assignment C**

➤ **Unit Eighteen – Play**

The following topics are covered: The importance of play to learning; Piaget's theory of play; forms of play; Relevance of psychological theories to pre-school education; Play and learning in nursery schools; Play therapy.

➤ **Unit Nineteen - Learning in School**

The following topics are covered: Programmed learning and its relationship to learning theory – advantages and disadvantages; Discovery learning and its effectiveness.

➤ **Unit Twenty - Behaviour Modification**

The following topics are covered: Explanation and examples; Relationship to learning theory; Points systems, Advantages and disadvantages. **Tutor-marked Assignment D: Extended Essay.**

Pre-Requirements:

There are no particular entry requirements.

Course Duration & Support:

Students may register at any time and have a full year to complete their studies. You also have access to a personal tutor by mail or email for a 12 month period. As the course is self study you can complete in as little or as long a time as you prefer.

Assessment:

You will be assessed on coursework which is detailed in the course materials. Most coursework consists of short paragraph answers to set questions, and a larger essay/case study assignment. Your work can be sent back to your course tutor by email or by post.

Qualification:

The award is gained from successfully completed coursework so there is no exam to complete. On successful completion of this course, students will receive a **Level 3 Child Psychology Award**. This award has been independently accredited at a level of learning equivalent to level 3 on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) and is comparable to working at A Level or NVQ Level 3.



The award is issued through NCFE. NCFE is recognised as an awarding body by the qualification regulators ('regulators') for England, Wales and Northern Ireland. The regulators are the Office of the Qualifications and Examinations Regulator (Ofqual) in England, the Department for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills (DCELLS) in Wales and the Council for Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA) in Northern Ireland.