

Joining Instructions

Early Years and Childcare

Welcome to Early Years at Wiltshire College & University Centre.

Please find below details of course related costs and items you may need to purchase ready for the start of term.

Resource Fee

You will also need to pay your £25 non-refundable Resource Fee before coming to enrol. This can be paid via the [WCUC Online Shop](#). You will need to bring a copy of your receipt to enrolment as proof of purchase. If you cannot pay online, please pay by card on enrolment day.

Stationery

All students are required to provide their own personal stationery to include pads, pens and pencils and folders ready for the start of term. Course lecturers will advise of any specific requirements at the start of term.

Equipment

You are required to purchase a placement polo shirt which costs £15, and you will be provided with paediatric first aid training which costs £12. You will also have the option to purchase a sweatshirt at £18 and a hoodie at £19 these are not required to complete the course.

This can be paid via the [WCUC Online Shop](#) and will be available from 1 August 2026, payment is required by 30 September 2026.

We recommend that if your place is conditional in achieving exam results that you do not purchase items until your place is confirmed at your enrolment appointment.

DBS

Work experience in an early years setting is essential for your course.

To be able to send students to early years settings we require a criminal records check (DBS). To do this, we require students to bring in the following to their enrolment appointment or the first day of the course.

- National Insurance letter,
- Valid passport, bank statement,
- Letter from the college,

- Birth certificate.

Don't worry if you do not have all of these, bring in as many as you have, your birth certificate or passport are essential.

Please make sure that identification is brought in at the very start of the course as this will prevent any delay in your DBS being processed

If you are 19 or over (on 31st August 2026) and are not eligible for fee remission, the price for the DBS Check is **£59.70**. Please pay via the [WCUC Online Shop](#) before the start of the course.

It is also recommended that once you receive your DBS you sign up for the DBS update service at a cost of £16 per year, particularly if you are enrolling on the T level as you will attend more than one placement and, in some cases, they may request a new application.

Preparation before the course starts

Approach early years settings local to where you live and ask if you can complete a week's work experience, prior to the course starting. Remember to ask for a reference from this setting.

Obtain a personal reference (not from a family member); this can be your school tutor or from your school work experience.

Trips

Throughout the year there will be trips and visits that will provide you with course enrichment, but also social opportunities, as well as guest speakers who may run workshops; these will be an additional cost and will need to be paid on an ad hoc basis where applicable. You will be able to pay for trips via the [WCUC Online Shop](#) when further details are available.

Financial Support

We understand that we are in a financially challenging time, and the costs of attending college can put pressure on a lot of families. Bursary funding is designed to help students overcome the financial barriers to attend and participate on their chosen course. Information about the criteria for applying bursary funds can be found on our website – [Bursaries - Wiltshire College & University Centre](#).

Bursary payments for anything other than meals and bus passes will be paid after 6 weeks of continued attendance, therefore please be mindful of this if you choose to purchase items yourself then.