

Fact Sheet – Early Childhood Teacher Bridging Program



Ready to start a new career as an Early Childhood Teacher and need to get qualified?

The **Early Childhood Teacher Bridging Program** (the Bridging Program) is a tailored, 'fast-track' pathway to a diploma qualification that enables registered primary teachers to work as early childhood teachers (ECTs).

The Bridging Program maps the **Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care (CHC50113)** to the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers to produce industry endorsed matrices of credit transfer and gap training requirements for each unit of competency.

Eligible teachers may also gain recognition of prior learning were relevant.

The Queensland Department of Education and Training commissioned the Bridging Program development and the C&K College of Early Childhood is registered to deliver the Bridging Program. You may wish to watch a short [professional development session](#) developed by the Department of Education and Training to understand how the Bridging Program matrices were developed.

Eligibility to participate

You are eligible to participate in the Bridging Program if you hold teacher registration (or accreditation) and a primary teaching qualification.

Your primary teaching qualification must at least include a focus on children aged 5 to 8 years old (e.g. qualification with focus on children aged 3 to 8 or 5 to 12).

Qualifications that are specifically for middle and secondary school aged children are not accepted.

If you have a degree in secondary or middle schooling and wish to become an early childhood teacher, you need to complete an approved graduate or postgraduate qualification in early childhood.

Course length

The Bridging Program will fast-track you to an approved early childhood teacher qualification by recognising the skills and knowledge you gained from primary teaching.

Generally the Bridging Program takes 6 to 12 months to complete full-time, depending on the amount of recognition of prior learning you gain in addition to the already approved credit transfer units.

Program delivery

This program is designed with commencements regularly. The Bridging Program is delivered using the materials endorsed by DET and study support is available by appointment. Students in the Bridging Program may also attend the regular skill development workshops run at the C&K Kedron Training Rooms as part of the Diploma training and assessment activities.

All Early Childhood Education and Care courses have vocational placement components which are compulsory to obtain the qualification.

As this is a customised program for qualified/registered primary school teachers bridging to an early childhood qualification, there is a requirement that the majority of work experience is undertaken in a regulated education and care service that caters for children birth-five years. This includes interactions with babies and toddlers.

If you do not currently work in an Early Learning Centre you will be assisted to source an appropriate vocational placement in an Early Childhood Education and Care Service. Where this is possible, it will be in a C&K service.

Working as an early childhood teacher

Registered primary teachers who hold an approved diploma level qualification are recognised by the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) as holding a nationally approved early childhood teaching qualification.

As soon as you enrol and are studying towards your approved diploma qualification through the Bridging Program, you can start working in a service as an early childhood teacher. For information on how, or when, a person is considered 'actively working towards' an approved early childhood teaching qualification please visit ACECQA website <http://www.acecqa.gov.au/actively-working-towards-an-approved-qualification>

Funding Options Qld Department of Education and Training (DET)

To assist with studying funding may be available to eligible students...

The Queensland Government Early Childhood Education and Care Workforce Action Plan has broadened access to the Higher Level Skills subsidy for Registered Primary School teachers.

The Bridging Program is now available from the C&K College of Early Childhood for only \$26 per unit (\$598 for the course and subject to eligibility)! Or \$10 per unit for concessional students.

Please contact the College to discuss and confirm eligibility and student co-contribution fee.

For students not eligible for subsidised training, the cost per unit is \$235 per unit (\$5,405 for the course).

Payment of fees

To assist your budget, fees are charged per cluster of units rather than annually upfront.

On receipt of first cluster fees, the orientation process will commence.

The C&K College of Early Childhood does not charge an enrolment fee when commencing the full bridging program and where the first study period incorporates Cluster 1.

All payments are to be made to C&K College of Early Childhood and a variety of payment options are available as follows:

- 1) By completing an Ezi-Debit form with the following options:
 - a) One off debit payment, this transaction will be completed once the form arrives at C&K College of Early Childhood, or
 - b) Direct debit option – this can be set up to cover the entire cost of the individual cluster being studied each term
- 2) By cheque or money order, or
- 3) By credit card over the phone.

Documents required in support of enrollment

Justice of the Peace certified copies of the following documents are required to verify eligibility to enroll:

- Proof of Australian Teacher registration
- Primary Teaching Qualification(s)
- Marriage certificate or similar (if necessary)

A First Aid Certificate (HLTAID004) is also required which may be obtained during study.

Recommended resources

Students who undertake the Bridging Program with C&K College of Early Childhood are provided with the following texts to assist students in completing assessments and they provide useful resources for the role of early childhood educator or teacher.

- Walker, L., Miller, S., & Tansey, S. (2016). The Early Childhood Educator for Certificate III. North Ryde: McGraw-Hill Education (Australia) Pty Ltd.
- Walker, L., Miller, S., & Tansey, S. 2016. The Early Childhood Educator for Diploma. North Ryde: McGraw-Hill Education (Australia) Pty Ltd.
- On-line professional development course by Dr Kaylene Henderson, 'Raising Good Kids: Managing Behaviour and Emotions in Early Childhood Care and Education Settings'. <http://drkaylenehenderson.com/for-professionals/>

Dr Kaylene Henderson graduated from the University of Queensland with a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery in the 1990's before pursuing specialist training in Psychiatry. She then spent her final years sub-specialising in Child & Adolescent Psychiatry while gaining invaluable clinical experience in helping children and their families tackle a range of social and emotional difficulties.

A list of information sources is provided in each assessment cluster. Students are expected to undertake further independent research to complete assessment tasks.

Lodging an Application

When you are ready to lodge your application, please ensure all sections of the Application Form are completed and confirm you have gathered and attached all required documentation.

If there is additional information you require prior to making a decision about which qualification and/or how the C&K College of Early Childhood can support your career endeavours, please contact the C&K College of Early Childhood on 07 3513 2524 or email your questions to ckcollege@candk.asn.au.

Contact details

Legal name:	The Crèche and Kindergarten Association limited
Trading name:	C&K College of Early Childhood
Registration code:	5025
Email:	ckcollege@candk.asn.au
Helpdesk:	07 3513 2524

Teacher Bridging Program Packaging rules

28 units are required for this qualification, comprising 23 core units and 5 elective units. Participants in the Bridging Program will complete 23 of the 28 units of competency. The remaining 5 units are either direct credit transfer from primary teacher qualifications and HLTAID004. Students will undertake the following units of competency:

Cluster	Core/ Elective	Unit Code	Unit Name
Cluster 1 Wellbeing & Safety	C	CHCECE002	Ensure the health and safety of children
	C	CHCECE016	Establish and maintain a safe and healthy environment for children
	C	HLTWHS003	Maintain work health and safety
	C	CHCPRT001	Identify and respond to children and young people at risk
Cluster 2 Provide Care & Nutrition	C	CHCECE003	Provide care for children
	C	CHCECE004	Promote and provide healthy food and drinks
	C	CHCECE005	Provide care for babies and toddlers
Cluster 3 Nurturing Relationships & Responsive Practice	C	CHCECE007	Develop positive and respectful relationships with children
	C	CHCECE020	Establish and implement plans for developing cooperative behaviour
	C	CHCECE021	Implement strategies for the inclusion of all children
	C	CHCECE026	Work in partnership with families to provide appropriate education and care for children
Cluster 4 Engage & Promote Children's Learning and Development	C	CHCECE017	Foster the holistic development and wellbeing of the child in early childhood
	C	CHCECE018	Nurture creativity in children
	C	CHCECE022	Promote children's agency
	C	CHCECE023	Analyse information to inform learning
	C	CHCECE024	Design and implement the curriculum to foster children's learning and development
Cluster 5 Legislation & Service Quality	C	CHCLEG001	Work legally and ethically
	C	CHCECE009	Use an approved learning framework to guide practice
	C	CHCECE019	Facilitate compliance in an education and care service
	C	CHCECE025	Embed sustainable practices in service operations
	E	BSBLED401	Develop Teams and Individuals
Cluster 6 Diversity and Indigenous Culture	C	CHCDIV002	Promote Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural safety
	C	CHCDIV001	Work with diverse people
Direct Credit transfers received for Teacher Registration and Primary Qualification	C	CHCECE001	Develop cultural competence
	C	HLTAID004	Provide an emergency first aid response in an education and care setting
	E	CHCPOL003	Research and apply evidence to practice
	E	CHCPRP003	Reflect on and improve own professional practice
	E	CHCINM002	Meet community information needs

Responsible officer: P&C Manager, College	Contact Officer: P&C Manager, College	Year: 2017
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