Pen Green
Research, Development and Training Base

MASTERS DEGREE

EARLY CHILDHOOD & EDUCATION

(INTEGRATED WORKING WITH FAMILIES AND CHILDREN)



How the Pen Green Masters Degree Can Support You in Your Role



Working in early years education is inspiring and rewarding, but it also comes with its challenges. Practitioners are constantly called upon to respond to the complex needs of children and families while navigating policy, pedagogy, and professional expectations. That's why many choose to deepen their knowledge and strengthen their practice through the Pen Green Masters degree—a programme designed to empower professionals in the early years sector.

Why Choose Pen Green?



Pen Green is internationally recognised for its pioneering work in early childhood education and care. The Masters programme reflects this ethos, offering a unique blend of academic rigour, practitioner research, and reflective practice. It's not about stepping away from your role—it's about bringing your setting into the heart of your study and making real, sustainable changes that benefit children, families, and communities.

How the Programme Supports Your Role

1 Linking Theory to Practice

The Pen Green Masters helps you move beyond surface-level understanding. You'll explore contemporary theories and research, then connect these ideas directly to your own practice. This critical reflection allows you to make more intentional choices and to see the impact of your work with fresh eyes.

2 Research in Your Own Context

Unlike many postgraduate programmes, Pen Green encourages you to use your own setting as a site for research. This means your study remains highly relevant to your day-to-day role. By investigating questions that matter to your children and families, you'll produce insights that can directly inform your practice and shape positive change.

3 Professional Confidence and Identity

The programme gives you the tools to develop a strong professional voice. You'll be able to back up your decisions with evidence, articulate your thinking with clarity, and engage confidently with colleagues, leaders, and external professionals. This growth in professional identity not only enhances your own role but can also inspire and strengthen your whole team.

4 Leadership and Collaboration

The Masters is designed to nurture leaders. By working collaboratively with peers, you'll build a supportive network of like-minded professionals who challenge and inspire you. The skills you gain in dialogue, reflection, and leadership can be taken back into your setting—whether you're leading a team, influencing strategy, or advocating for families.

5 Making a Difference for Children and Families

Ultimately, the aim of the programme is to enhance outcomes for children and families. By deepening your knowledge, refining your practice, and embedding research in your setting, you'll be better equipped to respond to the unique challenges of your community and to create meaningful change.

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Who Is It For?

The Pen Green Masters degree is designed for early years practitioners, leaders, and professionals working with children and families who want to:

- Develop a stronger theoretical understanding of early childhood
- Use research to improve practice in their own setting
- Grow in confidence as reflective practitioners and leaders
- Make a tangible difference to children and families



What will I study?

Core modules:

- Development and Learning in the Early Years – Deepen your understanding of how young children grow and learn.
- Working with Families – Explore effective ways to engage and support parents and carers.
- Practitioner Research – Investigate your own practice to inform real change.
- Leading in Integrated Teams – Build leadership and collaboration skills across professions.
- Dissertation – Conduct an in-depth study on a topic of your choice.



Final Thoughts

The Pen Green Masters isn't just another qualification—it's an opportunity to transform your role, your practice, and your impact. By combining reflective practice, research, and collaboration, the programme supports you to grow as a professional and to make a real difference where it matters most.

If you're ready to take your career to the next level and join a community of passionate, forward-thinking practitioners, the Pen Green Masters could be the perfect next step.

Register for our information session to find out more.