**Level 7 and Level 8-degree options at Institute of Technology Carlow for September 2022**

Changes are afoot in Higher Education for Level 7 and Level 8 degrees in Early Childhood Education. A new Qualifications Advisory Board for the Early Years Learning and Care Sector ratifies programmes from September 2022.

What will this mean for potential applicants for September 2022?

If you are applying to Year 1 at Institute of Technology Carlow for September 2022 entry, we will be rolling out our newly approved 3-year, Level 7 Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood Education and Practice and our new 4-year, level 8 Bachelor of Education Honours in Early Childhood Education and Practice. Entry only to Year 1 of the new degree programme in September 2022. Applicants over the age of 23 are classed as mature students and can apply on the basis of age. Applicants under the age of 23, must meet Leaving Certificate requirements or hold a full major QQ1 Level 5 award. The part time programme is designed for practitioners/those working in the sector

If I hold a major QQI Level 6 award what year can I apply for entry into in September 2022?

Holders of a QQI Level 6 major award in Childcare can apply for entry to Year 2 of the existing three-year Bachelor of Arts Honours in Early Childhood Education and Care (existing programme which is approved and is being phased out, so this is the last year 2 entry of this programme). Thus, if one is admitted to year 2 of the Bachelor of Arts Honours in Early Childhood Education and Care, it will take two years to complete a Level 8, honours degree.

If I hold a major Level 7 degree in Early Childhood Education what year can I apply for entry into in September 2022?

Holders of a major Level 7 degree in Early Childhood Education can apply for entry to Year 3 of the existing three-year Bachelor of Arts Honours in Early Childhood Education and Care. Thus, if one is admitted to year 3 of the Bachelor of Arts Honours in Early Childhood Education and Care, it will take one year to complete a Level 8, honours degree.

**Funding - 50% is available**

**Information Evening – 22nd February 2022 6.30pm online – links to follow**

**Contact:** **admin@carlowkilkennyskillnet.ie** **for more info**

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