

Case Study

Growing a Career in Early Years

Join Victoria Cockram's, Workforce Improvement Advisor at LCC, as she shares how her early years journey has grown over the years.

Can you tell me more about your role?

I currently work closely with young people and adults looking to start or return to a career in early years. My role involves visiting schools, colleges, and local community groups to raise awareness of the sector and share just how rewarding the career path can be.

From careers fairs to mock interviews and workshops, I help people understand and what it means to work with children and how early year professionals on training, career routes, and how to access support from our local authority and training providers.

What do you think the importance of continuing learning is?

Continued learning is key to success in early years. Whether it's a short course, CPD session or a formal qualification, it all contributes to your

development. Personally, I've worked to my way up from a Level 3 qualification to completing a degree and becoming head of faculty in a college before returning to my early year's roots. The journey has shown me how important it is to keep growing- not just for your career, but for the children and families you support. Every bit of learning helps you become the best version of yourself in practice.

How can Skills Bootcamps bridge the skills gap in early years?

Skills Bootcamps offer a brilliant entry point into early years for those new to the sector or looking to change directions. They give you a strong foundation in understanding the role and help you build confidence before starting a qualification or job. The practical knowledge and insights you gain help you step into the workplace with confidence, ready to support children's development in a meaningful way. It's a great stepping stone, especially for those who are unsure where to start or want to fast-track into a career with purpose.



What sort of opportunities are there for people who complete the Skills Bootcamp?

There are many doors that can open after completing the Skills Bootcamp. You'll be ready to apply for jobs, continue onto a Level 3 qualification, or even start an apprenticeship with a clear understanding of what to expect. From childminding, at home to working in nurseries, preschools, wraparound care, or even opening your own setting one day – the opportunities are vast and flexible. You can work part-time, term-time only, or full-time depending on what suits your life best.



Would you recommend this Skills Bootcamp programme with the college?

Absolutely. If working with children is something you've always wanted to do, there's never been a better time. The Skills Bootcamp gives you the tools, confidence, and support to take that first step. It's practical, flexible, and supported by the local authority, with links to real opportunities in Leicestershire. Whether you're starting fresh or returning after a break, the bootcamp helps you discover your potential and begin a career that truly makes a difference.

“The Skills Bootcamp gave me the confidence and knowledge I needed to take the first step into a career I love”



Are you ready to start a Career in Early Years?

Explore Skills Bootcamp in Leicestershire and take your first step towards a rewarding flexible and meaningful career today

www.leicestershire.gov.uk/career-in-childcare