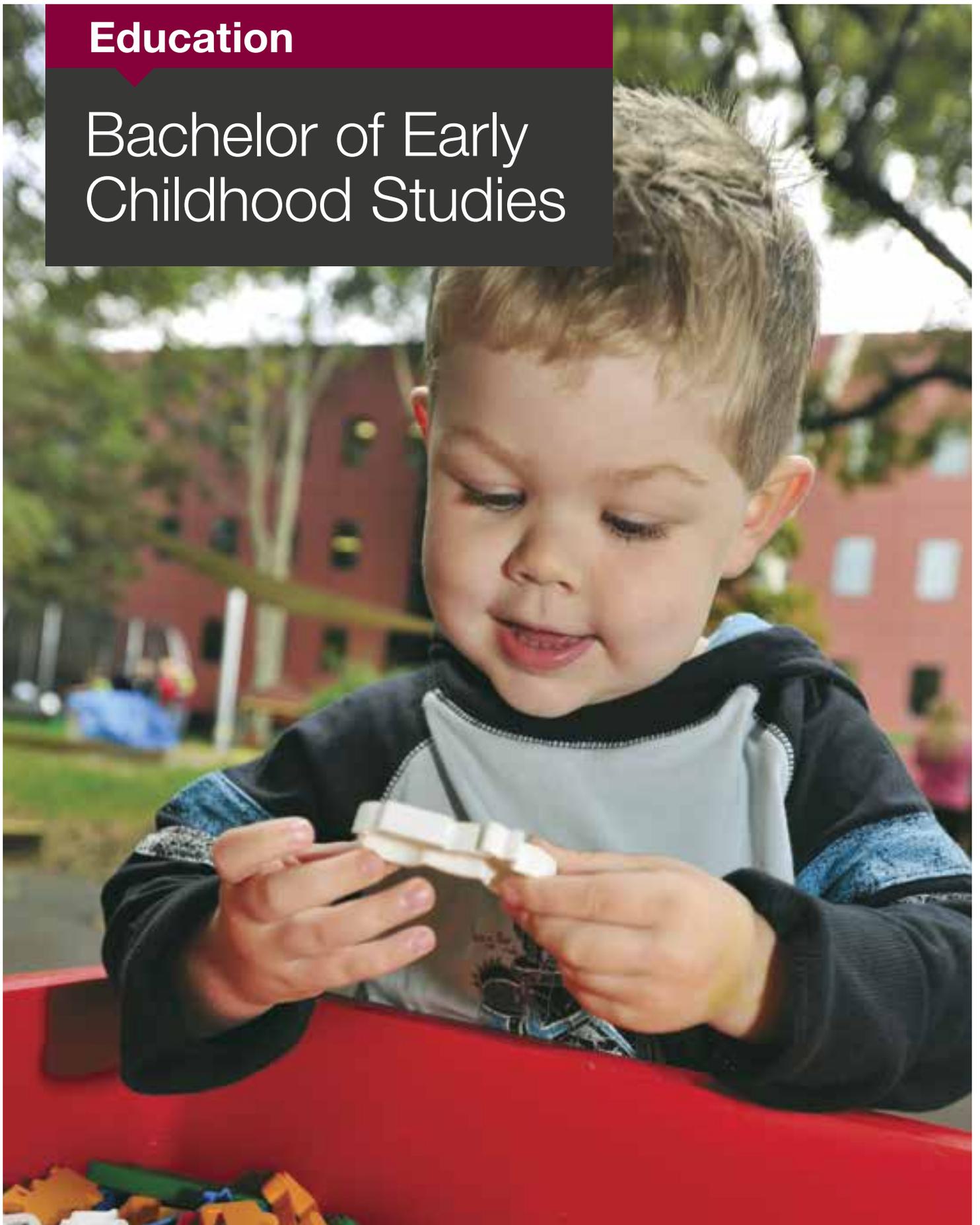




Education

Bachelor of Early
Childhood Studies



Children are not the only ones with inquiring minds



You love working as an early childhood professional. But now you're looking for more. You answer children's questions every day. But you now want to be the one asking.

Education at Monash gives you the opportunity to explore, analyse and challenge the science of early childhood education.

Let us help you find the answers you're looking for.

The Bachelor of Early Childhood Studies (BECS) is designed for experienced childcare professionals looking to advance their career or pursue a leadership role within an early childhood setting. It is also for people eager to investigate the science of early childhood learning and development.

At Monash, we know that you already have experience and knowledge as an early childhood educator. That's why we offer Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for the first year of your degree – leaving only two years (full-time) for you to complete the program.

The BECS will extend your expertise while giving you a degree qualification. But this course is not just about learning new things. It is also about contributing to the changing and growing body of knowledge within early childhood development. You will contribute to research that challenges the way we think and practise early childhood learning and development.

Course content

The Bachelor of Early Childhood Studies will give you the expertise to help children develop their early literacy and numeracy skills – as well as their creative, physical, personal, intellectual and social capacities. Studies also cover the importance of context and family situations, teaching children with special needs, and professional and ethical

issues. Units will encourage you to reflect on contemporary early childhood education issues, family studies and teacher research. You will gain an in-depth understanding of child development, learning theories and early childhood teaching.

For subjects details, visit:

www.education.monash.edu/courses/coursemaps/3708.html

Research excellence. Be a part of it.

Is a child's learning environment everything? Or do children learn in a predictable, linear 'building block' pattern? At Monash, we explore children's learning by starting at the beginning. We strive to understand the factors that impact how well, and how quickly, children learn.

The academic team within the Faculty of Education has an excellent reputation for pursuing and publishing new thinking in early childhood education. Our research is at the forefront of understanding how children develop, why we become the adults we become, and why we operate the way we do.

The Faculty also publishes the peer-reviewed journal, *International Research in Early Childhood Education*. This journal showcases the latest research and findings in early childhood learning and generates national discussion and debate.



Global outlook

Sharing ideas, knowledge and experiences across borders is an essential part of the early childhood courses and research programs at Monash. A global outlook isn't just about exposure to different countries, it's also about exposure to different cultures – including Australia's own indigenous cultures.

Monash works with interstate and overseas communities to encourage a healthy exchange of ideas and practices among early childhood carers, teachers and students. The cultural diversity at Monash enriches the community and encourages students to adopt a true global perspective.

Flexible delivery to suit working professionals

Many of our students continue to engage in full or part-time work. Many also have family and carer responsibilities. We understand that you need to balance your work and personal commitments with studying, which is why we offer the BECS in a flexible delivery mode at the Monash city campus.

The city BECS course is a popular choice for people who wish to upgrade their qualifications while continuing to work part-time or full-time. This option is also suited to people who live in regional areas. Students who choose this option undertake a combination of flexible face-to-face workshops and online learning. Face-to-face workshops are held one weekend per term over four terms each year.

Students can also complete the BECS at the Peninsula campus in part-time or full-time mode.

Professional recognition

The Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) recognises the Bachelor of Early Childhood Studies as an approved early childhood teaching qualification. Graduates wishing to teach overseas are advised to check registration and employment requirements with local authorities.

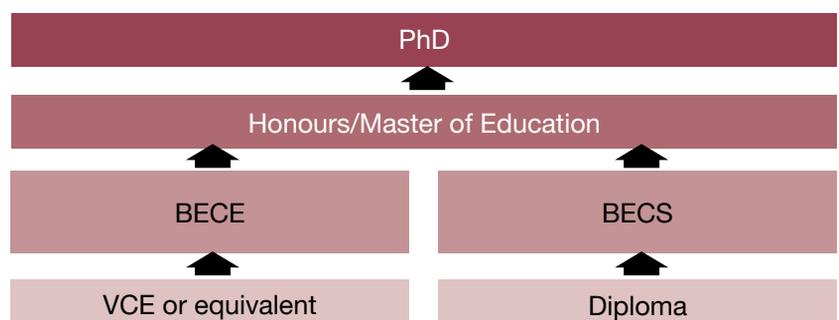
Alternative Early Childhood Education course option

The Faculty of Education offers an alternative course in this field. The Bachelor of Early Childhood Education (BECE) is a four-year degree for those wanting to work with children from birth through to 12 years of age. The course encompasses both early childhood and primary education practice.

Graduates of this ACECQA approved qualification are eligible to register with the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) to teach in Victorian primary schools. Graduates wishing to teach interstate or overseas are advised to check registration and employment requirements with local authorities.

For more information, including application requirements, visit www.monash.edu/study/coursefinder/course/1515.

Once you complete your early childhood undergraduate studies, you can look to progress into master's and doctoral level programs with an early childhood focus.





Professor Marilyn Fleer

Director for the Centre for Research into Childhood Studies

Professor Fleer began her career as an early childhood educator and is well-grounded in the practicalities of early childhood teaching. She later moved into government department roles where she gained extensive insight into indigenous education. Before arriving at Monash in 2002, Professor Fleer lectured and researched at Canberra University where she qualified as a professor.

Professor Fleer has advised local and international governments and inter-government agencies, ministers and premiers on childhood learning and development. Her research is widely published and she has co-authored several books on how children learn and the impacts of culture and society on their learning. Her specialisations include: cross-cultural research, early childhood science education, technology education, and new theoretical tools to support early childhood education. Professor Fleer works with many students to pursue these lines of inquiry and is endlessly fascinated by children's minds and the science of learning. She believes that this knowledge is the true foundation of our society.

"This course is suited to people who love kids and who have had experience working with children. But it's also for professionals who want to understand the human mind in all its complexity – and uncover the practices that help develop and extend children's abilities and thinking," explains Professor Fleer.

"You are not just a consumer of knowledge in this course. You are involved in creating and producing knowledge – knowledge that changes how we think about the science of early childhood learning."

"I have always loved working with young children. I believe children are the most important and influential people in society. It's a privilege to have the opportunity to learn how to best educate and provide for them."

Hollie Smith

Graduate
Bachelor of Early Childhood Studies



Application, admission and fee information

Entry requirements

The Bachelor of Early Childhood Studies is a pathway for students looking to upgrade their Diploma of Childhood Services (or equivalent) to a degree qualification. The program is only available to students with an approved diploma qualification. Students with other academic backgrounds are encouraged to apply for the Bachelor of Early Childhood Education.

To be eligible for admission you must have either:

- a graded Diploma of Children's Services (or equivalent) awarded by an Australian registered training organisation, such as a TAFE or private training provider
- other qualifications and experience deemed by the Faculty to be equivalent to, or a satisfactory substitute for the above.

If you meet these requirements, the Faculty will grant you Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for the equivalent of one year block credit. The course has been structured to enable students to complete their degree in two further years of full-time study (or part-time equivalent).

English language requirements

Applicants must also meet the English language requirements for undergraduate courses. For up-to-date information visit www.education.monash.edu/students/prospective/english-requirements

Working with Children Check

All students require a Working with Children Check before they begin their professional placements in early childhood settings.

For more information visit

www.education.monash.edu/placements/clearances

Fees

Commonwealth supported places

Australian and New Zealand citizens, Australian permanent residents and holders of humanitarian visas are eligible to apply for a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP). Students granted a CSP get help from the government and pay a lower course fee called the student contribution amount.

For more information on CSP and to estimate your student contribution amount, visit www.monash.edu/enrolments

International student fees

To study at Monash, international students will have two types of fees to pay – tuition and health care fees.

For more information on international fees, visit

www.monash.edu/study/international/apply/fees.html

Applications

Domestic applicants

If you are a citizen or permanent resident of Australia, or a citizen of New Zealand, please apply directly to the Faculty of Education.

Visit www.education.monash.edu/students/prospective/howtoapply/undergraduate.html and follow the specific directions for Bachelor of Early Childhood Studies applicants.

International students

If you are a prospective international student wanting to apply for the BECS, you must apply through a registered Monash University agent, or direct to the University.

To learn about Australian Government requirements and conditions for study in Australia, visit www.monash.edu/study/international

Jenny Bourke

Graduate

Bachelor of Early Childhood Studies

Jenny worked in childcare for several years and already held a diploma when she decided to return to study. "I wanted to improve my teaching skills and expand my career opportunities. At times it was daunting being back in a studying environment – but it was also exciting," says Jenny.

Jenny particularly valued the supportive staff and students around her. "One of my fellow students inspired me because she was studying while raising a young family. We supported each other greatly during our studies. It was very helpful to discuss thoughts and ideas with someone I trusted and respected. We are still close friends."

"The Peninsula campus is the perfect place to study. It has impressive facilities and a fun atmosphere. Everyone on campus was so friendly. There was always somewhere to go and someone to talk to whenever I needed help," says Jenny.



Faculty of Education www.education.monash.edu



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twitter.com/MonashUni

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International student enquiries

Phone: +61 3 9903 4788

Email: study@monash.edu

More information

The following links provide useful and up-to-date information about applying to Monash University and about professional registration requirements.

Consult the Monash online Course Finder to discover more information about our courses:

www.monash.edu/study/coursefinder

Faculty of Education

www.education.monash.edu

Application procedures

www.education.monash.edu/students/prospective/howtoapply

English language requirements

www.education.monash.edu/students/prospective/english-requirements

Fees

www.monash.edu/fees

International students

www.monash.edu/study/international

Scholarships

www.monash.edu/study/scholarships

Australia Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA)

www.acecqa.gov.au

Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT)

www.vit.vic.edu.au

Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC)

www.vtac.edu.au