SENIOR SUBJECT PATHWAYS

# Exploring Early Childhood

*Shape young minds. Build a career that matters.*

Child Development

Care & Support

Learning Through Play

Career Pathways

# What is Exploring Early Childhood?

A hands-on senior subject where you study how children grow, learn and develop from birth to age eight — and build real, practical skills working with children in early learning, care and community settings.

### Practical, not just theory

Includes work placement and hands-on activities with real children.

### Builds people skills

Communication, patience and leadership that transfer to any career.

### Respected pathway

Leads directly to TAFE, university and traineeship opportunities.

DID YOU KNOW?

**90%**

of a child's brain develops before age five — making the early years the most important learning window of their life.

Early childhood educators, teachers and health professionals all rely on this window — and it's exactly what this subject explores.

# What You'll Learn

*Six core areas of study across the course*

### Child Growth & Development

How children develop physically, socially, emotionally and intellectually from birth to age 8.

### Learning Through Play

Designing age-appropriate activities and play-based learning experiences.

### Health, Safety & Wellbeing

Keeping children safe, healthy and supported in care environments.

### Nutrition & Care Routines

Food, sleep, hygiene and daily routines that support healthy development.

### Family & Community

The role of family, culture and community in a child's early life.

### Current Issues in Childhood

Real-world topics like screen time, childcare policy and child rights.

# Careers This Subject Links With

*A launchpad into a growing, in-demand industry*

- **Early Childhood Educator**
- **Primary School Teacher**
- **Paediatric Nurse**
- **Child Psychologist**
- **Speech Pathologist**
- **Family Support Worker**
- **Nanny / Au Pair**
- **Youth Worker**

*Plus pathways into occupational therapy, social work, disability support, children's entertainment and more.*

# Why Choose This Subject?

## Hands-on from day one

Real placements and practical tasks — not just textbook theory.

## Clear next steps

Direct pathways to TAFE certificates, traineeships and university.

## Skills for any career

Communication, empathy and teamwork employers everywhere value.

## Growing industry

Childcare and education are consistently high-demand career areas.

# Who Would Suit This Subject?

*This subject could be for you if...*

- You enjoy being around children and helping them learn
- You're patient, caring and a good listener
- You communicate well and enjoy working in teams
- You're curious about how people grow and develop
- You prefer practical, hands-on learning over exams
- You're responsible and reliable in group settings

*Not sure yet? That's OK — talk to your Year 10 careers advisor about a taster session.*

# Ready to shape young lives?

*Select Exploring Early Childhood as one of your senior subjects.*

Questions? Speak with your Careers Advisor or the HPE/Health Sciences Faculty.