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Early Years Lead Practitioner Apprenticeship Level 5



Our Mission

SS Educational Services is an End-Point Assessment Organisation specialising only in the accreditation of Early Years, and Children, Young People and Families professionals in England, by providing comprehensive End-Point Assessments that will fully analyse the competency of each individual Apprentice.

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✓ Understand what is expected with the End-Point Assessment

✓ Working with a specialist niche company that has a background in EY and CYPF

✓ Save time and stress by providing a personal service and a helping hand to get you

✓ SSES have an easy to use online platform to complete all standard requirements

✓ Get set up so you and your Apprentices are following the correct assessment procedures

✓ SSES has a small core team who will be the same contacts for many years

What is an End-Point Assessment?

The End-Point Assessment (EPA) is the part of the new Apprenticeship Standards that take place at the end of the Apprentices training, and showcases the Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours they have gained.

It is designed to enable the competence of Apprentices to be assessed in accordance with the Apprenticeship Standard by an Independent End-Point Assessor, from an End-Point Assessment Organisation.

The EPA is an independent assessment of an Apprentice's competence. Therefore, the decision on whether an Apprentice has passed their EPA and what their final grade should be, must be taken by someone who has no vested interest in this decision, or relationship with the Apprentice.

This will ensure all Apprentices are treated fairly and helps to maintain trust in the robustness of the EPA system.

SSES has a comprehensive conflict of interest system that ensures an Independent End-Point Assessor has no connection with either the Apprentice or the employer.

INTRODUCTION



End-Point Assessment Organisation Principles

The End-Point Assessment process should be meaningful and add value to both the Apprentice and to the employer by complementing and building on normal performance management and developmental processes.

It should enable and encourage progression and Continuous Professional Development.

The End-Point Assessment is designed to test the markers of competence laid down in the Standard.

End-Point Assessment methodologies have been selected on the basis that they will provide a high level of validity of the relevant Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours.

End-Point Assessment will be synoptic and will assess Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours in an integrated way. It will take place at the end of the Apprenticeship and the final End-Point Assessment decision will be made independently of both the employer and the training provider.



Jeff Sapsed
Director

Jeff started off his career completing an Apprenticeship in Electronic Engineering.

He was a Director of the private day nurseries he owned with Suzanne and was actively involved in the day to day operations of the nurseries.

In recent years he registered as a foster carer and has supported many children from 0-18 through difficult circumstances, as well as having extensive professional experience with ADHD, mental health issues, autism and severe learning difficulties.

Due to their combined expertise and prior experience in the childcare sector, SSES has decided to align their offering and specialise in Early Years, Children, Young people and Families

Suzanne Sapsed
Chief Executive Officer



Since gaining the NNEB at 18 Suzanne has worked extensively in the Early Years and Apprenticeship sectors.

Suzanne and Jeff built 2 private day nurseries from start up to successful businesses and they managed these together for many years.

After the sale of the nurseries, Suzanne decided to work in Further Education as she enjoyed sharing her knowledge and experience to help develop the next generation of early years professionals. As an Assessor and Tutor, Suzanne maintained a 100% success rate.

More recently Suzanne has acted as a Consultant to set up a training provision; as an Interim Operations Director to successfully support a chain of failing nurseries; and has also worked with Universities setting up their Degree Apprenticeship provision.

As well as the NNEB, Suzanne is a qualified teacher, has her A1 and V1. and has recently completed L5 Leadership & Management in Residential Childcare. She also has a L5 in Leadership and Management and recently was awarded Chartered Manager status with CMI, attesting to the wealth of knowledge and experience she has gained during her career.



Chief Administrative Manager
Board Member

For many years during her career, Sandra, has managed offices and is a welcome addition to ensure the smooth running of all functions of the business.

Critical Friend
Board Member

SSES have a Critical Friend on their Board who will be responsible for Conflicts of Interest and oversee any Complaints/Appeals.

Anna has extensive experience in Apprenticeships and is currently a Quality and Compliance Manager for Degree Apprenticeships .

Director of Quality
Board Member

SSES are fortunate to have a Director of Quality with a vast amount of experience within Early Years, Apprenticeships and Quality Assurance. Suzanne and Joy have worked together on many projects over the past 35 years and SSES feel very honoured that Joy has chosen SSES as her first Board role.

Joshua Sapsed
Trainee Executive

Joshua will form an integral part of the team. He has 10 years experience in Early Years, primary-aged children and supporting children with complex needs. He will support the Level 2 assessment provision.

The Rest of the Team

We have a small team behind the scenes, including Apprentices in Business and Digital marketing as we are passionate about Apprenticeships!

OUR COMPANY

Helping to develop the next generation of Early Years and Children, Young People and Families professionals is something SSES feel very passionate about.

As a family-run business, the husband and wife team would describe their ethos in three words - honest, professional and personal. They strive to ensure that every apprentice, employer and training provider feels secure in the knowledge that they are working with a team whose ethos and values are at the core of the business.

The Directors aim to develop an End-Point Assessment Organisation that will become a leader in the EPAO field for EY and CYPF.

FOCUSING ON THE END IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS



S	SUPPORT —Apprentices receive support throughout, and, with a low turnover of team members, means continuity as well
S	SKILLED —SSES have only skilled and experienced team members, with current competencies, to guide you through the standards
E	EXCELLENCE —The service you will receive from SSES will be nothing short of, well, excellent
S	SUCCESS —Each Apprentice is unique and we will endeavour to support every individual to a successful outcome

Our **VALUES** support the Apprentice from **ENROLMENT** to **EPA**



Focusing on the End is the Key to Success

- 1** At the start of the Apprentice's journey the employer chooses an EPAO to partner with. This can be one recommended by their training provider, but can also be an EPAO not connected to the training provider.
- 2** The EPAO works with the employer and training provider to ensure the Apprentice reaches Gateway and has completed all the necessary requirements.
- 3** The EPAO delivers the EPA so that the Apprentice can complete their Apprenticeship.



Although there is no requirement for an employer to choose an EPAO until near completion, at SSES we believe early contact with the EPAO can only be beneficial to all involved with the Apprentice. We offer regular, 12 weekly, contact with the employer and training provider. We have a bank of templates for the Gateway requirements available for use, as well as a wealth of childcare knowledge and experience.

Business Development

- Our Business Development Manager will be assigned to employers and training providers and will remain the main point of contact.
- Answer any questions relating to SSES, requirements of Gateway, pricing structure, etc.
- Ensures contracts are agreed and signed.
- Due to the nature of their role, to avoid any perceived conflict of interests, they will not discuss individual Apprentices.
- Their key role is to offer support and guidance on a commercial perspective but the information and support will be generic.
- As part of their role they will maintain 12-weekly contact with employers and training providers, but not Apprentices.

Programme Support Team (Pre-Gateway)

- Create profiles on our MIS EPA system.
- Support the training providers and employers to assist Apprentices to reach Gateway.
- Regular touch points with key stakeholders.
- Answer queries relating to SSES, requirements for Gateway, pricing structure, etc.
- Ensure that all requirements of the Gateway are met and that the evidence produced is accurate and genuine.
- Ensure invoices are paid before the account is transferred to the Assessment Team.
- Offer impartial support and advice on the End-Point Assessment process.
- Detailed information on the Gateway is covered later.
- This department is managed by the Chief Administrative Manager.

Assessment Team (Post-Gateway)

- The Assessment Team will take over and liaise to ensure a smooth progression through the EPA.
- Advise of approval of Case Study, Title and Scope.
- An Independent End-Point Assessor (IEPA) will have been allocated ahead of Gateway, but no contact will have been made by the IEPA and the Apprentice until authorised by the Assessment Team.
- The Assessment Plan states that the EPA should be completed within 5 months, but under normal circumstances, it is expected that most Apprentices will complete within 3-4 months.
- Detailed information on the End-Point Assessment is covered later.
- The team will update the MIS and apply for certification.
- The Assessment Team also includes the IEPAs, and the Lead IQA.
- The Team is managed by the Quality and Compliance Manager.

MEET THE TEAMS



GATEWAY

SSES will need a reference from the employer confirming the Apprentice is consistently working at, or above, Level 5, as well as:

- Maths and English Level 2
- A Portfolio with Statement of Authenticity
- The case study title and scope, which will be agreed between the apprentice, employer and the EPAO at the gateway

GRADING

Assessment Method: Observation With Questions

- Fail
- Pass
- Distinction

Assessment Method: Professional Discussion

- Fail
- Pass
- Distinction

Assessment Method: Case Study With Report and Presentation and Questioning

- Fail
- Pass
- Distinction

Performance in the EPA will determine the overall apprenticeship standard and grade of:

- Fail
- Pass
- Merit
- Distinction

IMPORTANT NOTES.....

English and Mathematics at Level 2. For those with an Education, Health and Care Plan, or a legacy statement, the Apprenticeship's English and Mathematics requirement is Entry Level 3; and British Sign Language qualifications are an alternative to English qualifications for whom this is their primary language.

END-POINT ASSESSMENT

Assessment method: Observation With Questions

- The observation must be of an Apprentice completing their usual work and simulation is not permitted
- The Apprentice must prepare a session plan, including relevant risk assessments prior to the observation
- The session plan itself is not marked but may be used as a basis for questions at the end of the observation
- The total time for the assessment on the day is 90 minutes
- Observation of the opportunities and experiences outlined in the session plan (60 minutes) and questioning (30 minutes)
- The Independent End-Point Assessor has the discretion to increase the time of the observation by up to 10% to allow the apprentice to complete their last task or respond to a question.

Assessment method: Professional Discussion

- A Professional Discussion is a two-way discussion which involves both the independent assessor and the Apprentice actively listening and participating in a formal conversation
- It gives the Apprentice the opportunity to make detailed and proactive contributions to confirm their competency across the KSBs mapped to this method.
- The professional discussion must last 60 minutes
- The Independent End-Point Assessor has the discretion to increase the time of the Professional Discussion by up to 10% to allow the Apprentice to complete their last answer
- They will ask a minimum of 6 questions and may ask follow up questions for clarification purposes

Assessment method: Case Study With Report and Presentation and Questioning

- A case study must be based on a real-life workplace situation which involves the Apprentice completing a relevant and defined piece of work
- The case study, report and presentation should be designed to allow the relevant KSBs to be assessed for the EPA
- Apprentices will conduct a case study and produce a case study report either paper based or electronically
- Apprentices will prepare and deliver a presentation that appropriately covers the KSBs assigned to this method of assessment alongside the case study report
- There will be a 40-minute presentation and questioning, split into typically 20 minutes for the presentation and typically 20 minutes questioning



PRICING STRUCTURE

As the employee of the Apprentice, the decision as to which EPAO to use rests with you. When considering your choice we would like to draw your attention to a few reasons we feel may help you to choose SSES:

- We specialise only in Early Years, Children, Young People and Families
- Our experience in EY and CYPF spans 45+ years
- Being small we can keep our prices competitive without losing quality
- ESFA state the EPAO can charge up to 20% of the total funding, £1600 of the £8,000. If you choose us you will see we only charge £850, which is only ~53% of the maximum amount that our competitors may charge.
- As well as 12 weekly contact throughout, we provide templates for all of the Gateway requirements
- Our small family team ensures you have the same contact year on year
- Our Directors are hands-on and may even be leading your Apprentice's EPA
- Our IEPAs are recruited for their experience, knowledge and passion in Early Years

END-POINT ASSESSMENT RESIT

Face-to-Face	£850	Observation With Questions
		Face-to-Face £200
		Professional Discussion
		Remote £150
		Case Study With Report and Presentation and Questioning
		Remote £150

- A 20% deposit can be paid to secure an End-Point Assessment with SS Educational Services Ltd. This is not a requirement, although we recommend an early relationship with SSES as we believe that **'Focusing on the End is the Key to Success'**.
- Once a deposit has been paid, our Business Development Manager and the Programme Support Team will make contact, and being a small family-run business you can be assured of continuity throughout our relationship.

CONTACT US

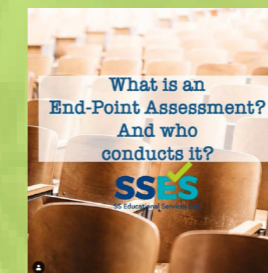
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You can follow us on social media where we love being able to interact with our followers and bring them informative and fun posts on EPA's, Apprenticeships, childcare and even recipes! Our information is on the back page!



Disclaimer: some of the information in this document is not exhaustive; for full information regarding the EPA process please visit the IfATE website, or feel free to contact us for a PDF.



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