

Short Courses

Developing knowledgeable
and nurturing educators



Learning through play is at the heart of a Froebelian approach to early years practice.

Our courses will take you and your team on an energising journey – supporting your work with young children, building on your knowledge and expertise.

A Froebelian approach to early education recognises the importance of play, learning through nature, practical hands-on learning and nurturing a child's connection to their community.

Unique courses for educators working with babies and young children

A Froebelian approach to early education celebrates the individuality of every child as part of a strong community.

The courses introduce Froebel's main ideas and educational approach - we call them the 'Elements' of Froebelian practice.



Knowledgeable and nurturing educators are central to a Froebelian approach.

The role of the educator is crucial to Froebelian practice – a sensitive guide helping young children to become autonomous as active, curious and creative learners.

You can find out more about Froebelian education at froebel.org.uk

Our Short Courses introduce all aspects of a Froebelian approach and will support your team to develop their practice. Every learner is unique and valued by our tutors. We don't ask for course participants to have any prior knowledge about Froebelian education.

The courses are created for everyone who works with babies and young children – regardless of their level of experience or prior qualification.

They are hands-on, with a focus on the practical (no written assignments required).

- Each course consists of two separate days of face-to-face training. These do not have to be on consecutive days.
- Two of our expert tutors will come to your school or setting and co-teach each day of our courses.



After finishing the Froebel Trust Short Courses, I feel enthused and motivated about the simple changes I can make to improve my practice and the learning environment.



Setting Leader, Scotland

What will we learn?



Our Short Courses include six different Elements to choose from

Element 1

An introduction to the principles and practice of the Froebelian approach to early childhood education

In this practical course you'll find out how Froebel's principles are relevant to your practice today. This course will build on your team's skills and develop their understanding of a Froebelian approach.

It's an inspiring and supportive course which gives everyone the chance to reflect on how babies and young children learn. The course explores how carers and educators can support, guide and extend children's learning and development.



The course has strengthened my principles in sustaining a child-centred and holistic approach to learning and development through play.



Nursery school educator, Wales

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Element 2

The Gifts (and modern wooden blocks) and Occupations

An introduction to block play and creative activities including clay, woodwork, weaving, sewing and more. Many resources in early years settings today have their origins in Froebel's original 'Gifts and Occupations'. This course will support your team to nurture young children's creativity and problem-solving skills.



I have learnt so much about the importance of play from a child's perspective... I've really learnt how to play and observe children playing.



Course participant



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Element 3

Engaging with nature and outdoor learning

How can we support young children's understanding of the natural world? How can we encourage adventurous and challenging play outdoors? This course is designed to develop your confidence in working in outdoor environments – observing, supporting and extending children's engagement with nature.

Element 4 Play and the symbolic life of the child

This Element looks at how children use symbols to represent things in their play. The course includes ways to develop music, art and creativity in your early years setting.



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Element 4 has helped me to focus on play. It has allowed me to observe more - to really talk to the children and be part of their play.

Course participant

Games give children a sense of belonging and help them to feel part of a community.

Dr Stella Louis, Lead Tutor,
Froebel Trust Short Courses

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Element 5 Lullabies, family songs, finger plays, action songs and movement games

Froebel pioneered the linking of music and movement with language and literacy. This course will develop your team's confidence to engage babies and young children at your setting in more singing, music, dance, games and drama.

Unity and connectedness - a Froebelian approach to equality is about being respectful and treating individual children fairly. This Element explores how we can support every child and their family in our schools and settings. A chance to explore how Froebelian principles can deepen early years educators' commitment to equality, equity, diversity and inclusion.

Element 6 Equality, equity, diversity and inclusion

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I've learnt the importance of taking each child's learning and development from whatever stage they are at.

Course participant

What makes our Short Courses so special is the expertise, knowledge and experience of our trainers - known as the Froebel Travelling Tutors.

The Short Courses were created by world-leading Froebelian educator, Professor Tina Bruce who is senior advisor and mentor to the Travelling Tutor team. The team of tutors includes headteachers, practitioners, early years leaders, teacher trainers, university lecturers and early years specialists.

Dr Stella Louis is the Short Courses Development Officer and Lead Tutor. Stella is an early years consultant, trainer and author who has worked with a vast range of nursery settings, schools, local authorities, government departments and charities.



Who are the tutors?



These courses give educators the tools and the words to develop and articulate their practice.



Dr Stella Louis, Lead Tutor,
Froebel Trust Short Courses

Find out more about the expertise of our tutors at froebel.org.uk/short-courses

What do the courses cost and how can we book?



...your staff are the most valuable resource you'll ever have...



**Sally Cave, Headteacher,
Guildford Nursery School
and Family Centre**

**Our courses are
designed for groups
of up to 25 people.**

Our Short Courses have six Elements to choose from. Each Element takes two days to complete with two of our tutors visiting your setting or a local venue. You can choose training dates that best suit your team.

Elements can be booked individually or in a block. We just ask that you complete Element 1 (An introduction to Froebelian practice) before booking any of the others.



Our courses for groups of up to 25 people cost £3,300 per Element (2 days of training).

Many settings, schools and groups can take advantage of our subsidies, which can reduce the cost of a course to £2,000.

If you would like to discuss booking our courses and how we can support your school or setting, call us on 020 8878 7546 or email us at office@froebeltrust.org.uk

About the Froebel Trust



Froebel Trust Short Courses have been running for over 7 years and in 2022/23 we provided over 1,250 course places for educators in early years settings and schools across the UK.

Our charity is committed to supporting the early years workforce. We believe that every child needs inspirational, knowledgeable teachers and educators.

The Froebel Trust funds research into children's learning from birth to eight years and supports high quality early education. Find out more about our work at froebel.org.uk



The Froebel Trust is a registered Charity No: 1145128 Registered as a Company limited by guarantee in England and Wales No: 07862112.

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The Froebel Trust Short Courses have improved our practice, shaped our environment and our staff teams. They have inspired us to learn more, know more and do more!

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Holli Williams, Head of Schools, Linden Tree Nursery Schools, London

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