



Department
for Education

National Professional Qualification in Early Years Leadership

November 2022

What is the National Professional Qualification in Early Years Leadership (NPQEYL)

The National Professional Qualification in Early Years Leadership (NPQEYL) is a new, DfE-funded, professional development course being offered from autumn 2022 to leaders and aspiring leaders of early years settings. It is designed to support early years leaders to develop expertise in leading high-quality education and care, as well as in effective staff and organisational management.

The NPQEYL has been designed with leaders and practitioners in mind, using the latest and best available evidence and collective wisdom of the profession to ensure every child in every setting gets the best start in life.

The NPQEYL is aimed at leaders qualified to (at least) Level 3 with a full and relevant qualification, who are, or are aspiring to be:

- managers of Private, Voluntary and Independent nurseries,
- Headteachers or leaders of school-based and maintained nurseries, or
- childminders with leadership responsibilities.

Early years professionals helped us design this course to fit around busy schedules. On average participants will need to spend between 1 and 2 hours per week working towards this NPQ.

Further information about the NPQEYL is available on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk)

What benefits will the NPQEYL bring to early years leaders and the children in their care?

The NPQEYL focuses on the key challenges early years leaders face in their role. This CPD course covers 7 topics, with a mix of self-study, group coaching sessions, and face-to-face sessions with other participants.

It will help participants gain confidence and develop skills in:

- ✓ developing your leadership style
- ✓ delivering high-quality early education and care
- ✓ organisational management
- ✓ giving constructive feedback to parents
- ✓ enhancing the expertise of your staff and supporting their development
- ✓ working with children who have additional and special educational needs

How participants and their settings could benefit:

- ✓ Ensuring all children experience success
- ✓ Delivering a high-quality and ambitious curriculum
- ✓ Managing resources and budgeting effectively
- ✓ Knowing what improvement approaches to use
- ✓ Learning with people from different early years settings, allowing you to build your network and share best practice

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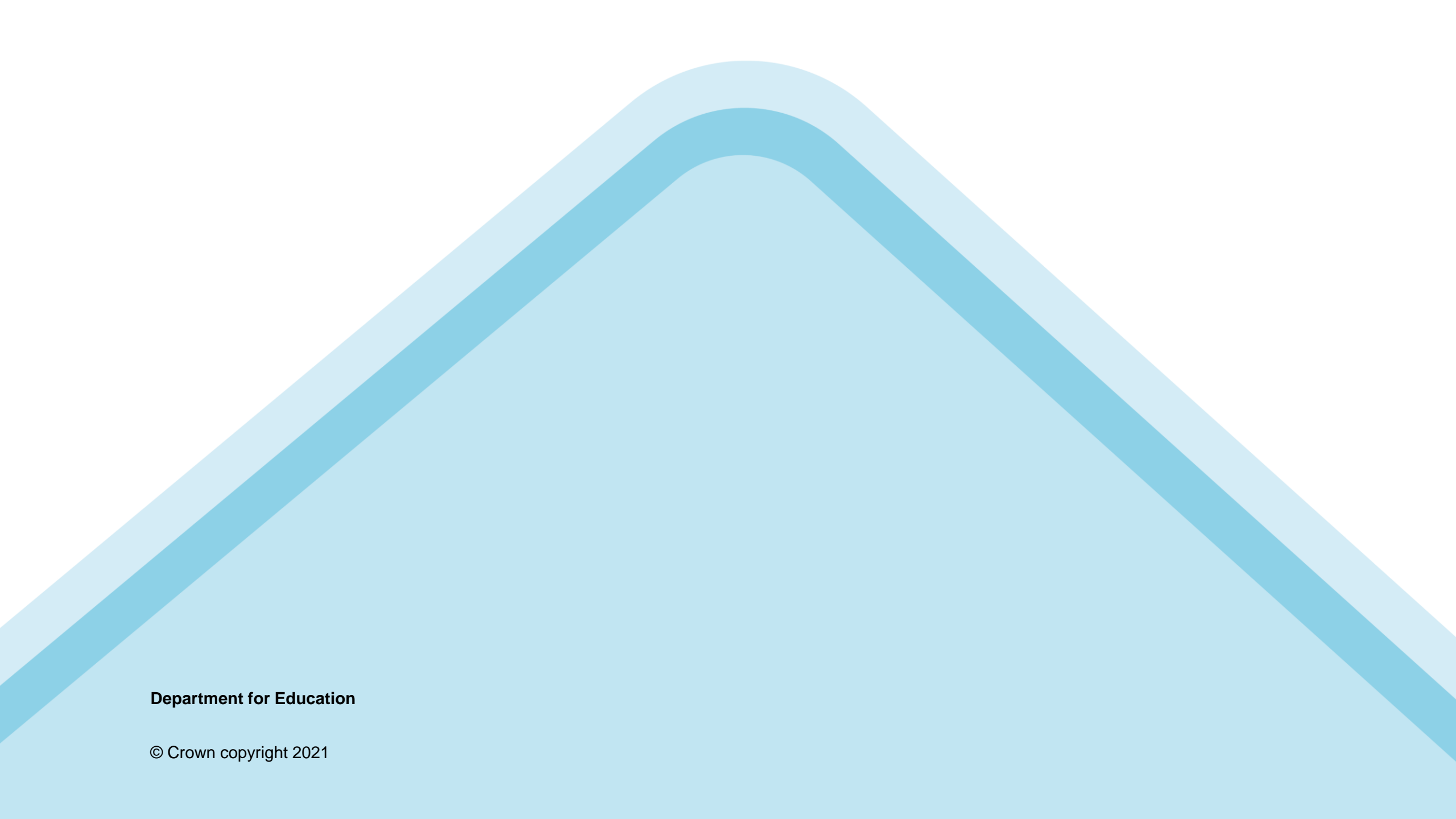
As a high-quality CPD offer, the NPQEYL complements those existing early years qualifications which leaders already hold which are directly linked to ratios. The NPQEYL fills a key gap identified by current and aspiring early years leaders, strengthening early years-specific teaching methods.

Full DfE funding, with no cost to the participant, is available. You are eligible for this course, and funding, if you are a leader, or aspiring leader, qualified to at least level 3 with a full and relevant qualification, employed:

- in a maintained nursery school in England
- in a preschool class or nursery that's part of a maintained school in England
- in a pre-school class or nursery that's part of an independent school in England providing free early years entitlements places
- in a nursery that is registered on the Ofsted Early Years Register
- as a childminder with leadership responsibilities working with early years children and registered on the Ofsted Early Years Register or with a registered Childminder Agency

The NPQEYL is delivered by [Lead Providers](#) and their delivery partners, who can also offer support in deciding whether the NPQEYL is the right choice for you and your setting. If the course is appropriate for you, and with agreement from your chosen Lead Provider, you may be able to self-fund the NPQEYL if you are not eligible for DfE funding.

Watch the animation and find out how to apply on [GOV.UK](#)



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