From Practitioner to Leader



Celebrating a Level 5 Achievement



> **Completing my Level 5 qualification has given me the confidence, knowledge, and skills to grow as a leader**

At JACE Training, we're passionate about helping Early Years professionals develop the skills, knowledge and confidence to progress in their careers. Today we are shining a spotlight on Brooke, who has successfully achieved her Level 5 qualification in Early Years and Sarah, her JACE Early Years Educator.

This achievement represents not only personal success but also a significant investment in quality provision for children, families and colleagues with her nursery setting.

About Brooke

LITTLE BARN OWLS
FOREST & FARM SCHOOL NURSERIES

I have worked in the childcare sector for the past six years, gaining valuable experience supporting children's learning, development and wellbeing. Throughout my career, I have developed a genuine passion for early years education and have continuously sought opportunities to expand my knowledge and skills. This commitment to professional development has helped me progress into my current role as Deputy Manager and Practice Leader.

The reason I progressed to the Level 5 was because I wanted to further develop my knowledge, skills and confidence as a leader within early years. As a Deputy Manager and Practice Leader, I wanted to strengthen my understanding of leadership, improve my practice and be able to support my team more effectively, while always ensuring we provide the best possible outcomes for the children in our care.

My biggest challenge was balancing my role with completing assignments and finding time to focus on my own learning. Working in childcare can be very busy, so managing my time effectively and staying motivated was important. However, I persevered, remained committed, and reminded myself why I started the qualification in the first place and it has all been worth it.

Proudest Moment

I am most proud of completing my coursework and receiving **two** distinctions so far on my observation and questioning, and my professional discussion while continuing to fulfil my responsibilities as Deputy Manager and Practice Leader. It has taken hard work, dedication and determination, and I am proud of the progress I have made both personally and professionally. I am particularly proud of how I can use my learning to support my team, improve practice, and make a positive difference to children's experiences.



Completing my Level 5 qualification has greatly increased my confidence in my leadership abilities, decision-making and professional knowledge. I feel more confident supporting and guiding my team, sharing my ideas, and making decisions that positively impact the setting. It has helped me recognise my strengths and feel more assured in my role as a leader.

My Early Years Educator and Employer

Sarah my JACE Educator provided guidance, encouragement and constructive feedback throughout my qualification journey. She helped me understand what was expected, reflect on my practice and recognise how my everyday experiences linked to the qualification. Her support helped me stay motivated, build my confidence and continue progressing, even when things felt challenging.

My employer supported me by encouraging my professional development and giving me the opportunity to grow within my role. Having their support while balancing my leadership responsibilities and studies helped me stay focused and motivated. They enabled me to develop my knowledge and apply what I had learned to support the team, strengthen practice, and improve outcomes for children.

"Completing my Level 5 qualification has given me the confidence, knowledge, and skills to grow as a leader and become the best version of myself professionally. It has strengthened my ability to support my team, reflect on my practice and make a positive difference to the children in my care. I would encourage anyone considering taking the next step to believe in themselves and embrace the opportunity. It may challenge you at times, but the personal and professional growth you gain makes it all worthwhile."

Sarah - JACE Training Educator in Early Years



As Brooke's Educator, I have had the privilege of supporting her journey through the Level 5 qualification. Throughout the programme Brooke demonstrated determination, professionalism and a strong desire to continuously improve her practice. Balancing the demands of study alongside a leadership role can be challenging, yet Brooke remained focused and engaged, consistently applying new knowledge within the setting. Watching her confidence grow as she developed her leadership and management skills has been incredibly rewarding. Brooke's commitment to supporting both children and colleagues reflects the qualities of an outstanding early years professional, and I have no doubt she will continue to make a positive impact within her nursery.

Could your next success story be waiting in your team?

Investing in staff development not only supports career progression but helps build stronger, more confident leaders for the future. Whether you're a nursery looking to nurture talent within your workforce or an experienced practitioner ready to take the next step, JACE Training can support you on your Level 5 journey.

If you'd like to find out more speak to JACE Training to explore options and discover how we can support professional development for yourself or your team within your setting.

TRAIN WITH US

- **Early Years L2** — Start your journey
- **Early Years L3** — Build your skills
- **Early Years L5** — Lead for the future
- **Teaching Assistant L3** — Make a difference

"Behind every exceptional nursery is a team that never stops learning".

Great nurseries never stop developing their people. If you're ready to strengthen your workforce, nurture future leaders and invest in quality training, we'd love to work with you.

JACE Training

rebecca.jones@jace-training.co.uk
studentservices@jace-training.co.uk
020 8773 8146
www.jace-training.co.uk