



Rewarding Learning

Home Economics:  
**GCSE**  
**Child Development**

STUDENT  
GUIDE



# INTRODUCTION

The GCSE Home Economics: Child Development course will give you opportunities to learn about the important considerations when having a family and caring for a small baby. You will also learn about the developmental needs of young children (aged 0–5 years) and how to look after their health and well-being.

## WHY STUDY CHILD DEVELOPMENT?

You will gain knowledge and understanding of:

- pregnancy, childbirth and parenting;
- how to care for newborn babies;
- how to meet the needs of small children (aged 0-5 years) – for example dietary, health and educational considerations; and
- the social, physical, intellectual, communication and emotional development of small children.

You will be able to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding in the examinations and the investigation task.



# WHAT WILL I STUDY?

UNIT ASSESSMENT	AREAS OF STUDY
<b>Unit 1:</b> <b>Parenthood, Pregnancy and the Newborn Baby</b>	You will study: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the family and parenting responsibilities;</li> <li>• reproduction;</li> <li>• pregnancy;</li> <li>• diet and lifestyle during pregnancy;</li> <li>• birth;</li> <li>• the newborn baby; and</li> <li>• feeding the newborn baby.</li> </ul>
<b>Unit 2:</b> <b>The Development of the Child (0–5 Years)</b>	You will study: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• dietary needs of the child (0–5 years);</li> <li>• child health and education; and</li> <li>• development of the child:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– social development;</li> <li>– physical development;</li> <li>– intellectual development;</li> <li>– communication development; and</li> <li>– emotional development.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Unit 3:</b> <b>Investigation Task</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You will carry out research based on a given title.</li> <li>• You will plan and carry out activities to produce an outcome.</li> <li>• You will evaluate all aspects of the task.</li> <li>• The task is split into five parts and you will have word limits to follow.</li> </ul>



Unit 1

**Parenthood,  
Pregnancy and the  
Newborn Baby**

**30%**



Unit 2

**The Development  
of the Child  
(0–5 years)**

**30%**



Unit 3

**Investigation  
Task**

**40%**

## HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

UNIT	ASSESSMENT DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
<b>Unit 1:</b> <b>Parenthood, Pregnancy and the Newborn Baby</b>	<b>Examination</b>  1 hour 15 minutes  We set and mark the paper.  75 marks  The paper will include multiple-choice, short and structured questions, and questions that require extended writing.	<b>30%</b>
<b>Unit 2:</b> <b>The Development of the Child (0–5 years)</b>	<b>Examination</b>  1 hour 15 minutes  We set and mark the paper.  75 marks  The paper will include multiple-choice, short and structured questions, and questions that require extended writing.	<b>30%</b>
<b>Unit 3:</b> <b>Investigation Task</b>	<b>Controlled assessment</b>  100 marks  You will complete research based on a given title. You will produce a written report. There are five parts to the report and you will have to work within word limits.  Teachers mark the task and we moderate the results.	<b>40%</b>

# WHAT CROSS-CURRICULAR SKILLS, THINKING SKILLS AND PERSONAL CAPABILITIES WILL I DEVELOP?



## CROSS-CURRICULAR SKILLS AT KEY STAGE 4 COMMUNICATION, USING MATHEMATICS AND USING ICT

You will have opportunities to develop these skills in a variety of ways, for example:

- discussing the importance of immunisation;
- responding to exam questions;
- evaluating and debating the feeding options for a baby;
- interpreting information on food labels;
- recording bathwater temperature and body temperature;
- calculating estimated delivery date;
- understanding centile charts; and
- researching and accessing information online for the controlled assessment task.

## THINKING SKILLS AND PERSONAL CAPABILITIES AT KEY STAGE 4 SELF-MANAGEMENT, WORKING WITH OTHERS AND PROBLEM SOLVING

You will be encouraged to:

- manage your own time and work outcomes;
- work with others on a range of activities; and
- explore, analyse, evaluate and justify decisions.

# WHAT CAN I DO WITH A QUALIFICATION IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT?

You will develop the knowledge, understanding and skills (including practical skills) required for working in the area of child development. The course also prepares you for progression to further study of child development or other related qualifications.

You will also acquire knowledge, understanding and skills that are valuable to you in your adult life.



