Dear Lord Storey,

Re: PQ – HL11099

Thank you for your enquiry addressed to ask Her Majesty's Government when the Institute for Apprenticeships plans to introduce the Early Years apprenticeship standard.

I should firstly explain that the development of an apprenticeship standard is an employer-led process. This involves employers drafting an occupational standard setting out the duties, knowledge, skills and behaviours (KSBs) required for full competence in the occupation and an End-Point Assessment (EPA) plan, setting out how all apprentices undertaking the apprenticeship will be assessed against the KSBs at the end of their apprenticeship. The Institute reviews each draft standard and EPA plan against certain criteria using the relevant employer-led Route Panels to ensure the quality of each apprenticeship standard, making recommendations to our Board before they can be approved for delivery.

In the case of the Level 3 Early Years Educator standard, the development process has been undertaken by a Trailblazer led by Busy Bees Childcare. The occupational standard is already published (https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/early-years-educator/) and the Trailblazer Chair was informed on the 8th of November that their EPA plan had been approved subject to certain conditions being met. The Trailblazer was asked to work with their Institute Relationship Manager to provide a final draft that addresses these conditions by the 6th of December. Subject to these conditions being satisfactorily met, we would normally expect to publish final versions within two weeks of receipt. Once that has happened, the Early Years Educator apprenticeship standard will be approved for delivery.
I hope this reply has been useful and thank you again for your interest.

Yours sincerely,

Sir Gerry Berragan  
Chief Executive Officer  
Institute for Apprenticeships