

Lowther Endowed School & Little VIPs Day Care
Early Years Childcare Practitioner
Apprentice, Level 2 or Level 3



Permanent: Full-Time (37 hrs/week over 4 days, 51 weeks/year)

Location: Hackthorpe, Cumbria, CA10 2HT

Salary: Dependent on qualification level

Apprentice – National minimum wage for apprentices (hourly rate £8.00)

Level 1 – PCD3 £24,796 pro rata (hourly rate £13.05)

Level 2 – PCD4 £25,583 pro rata (hourly rate £13.30)

Level 3 – PCD5 £25,989 pro rata (hourly rate £13.47)

Start Date: Monday, 1st June 2026 or as soon as possible after this date

Join Our Early Years Team

Lowther Endowed School and Little VIPs Day Care are looking for caring, enthusiastic, and motivated individuals who are passionate about making a difference in children's early lives. Whether you are starting your childcare journey through an apprenticeship or already hold a Level 2 or Level 3 qualification, we would love to hear from you.

No two days are the same in our setting - this is a fantastic opportunity to join a supportive team, develop professionally, and help shape children's earliest experiences in a beautiful rural environment.

Key Responsibilities (Apprentice/Level 1)

- Support children's learning, play, and development through safe, engaging, and age-appropriate activities.
- Assist with daily care routines including meals, hygiene, toileting, dressing, and maintaining a clean environment.
- Follow safeguarding, health and safety, and nursery policies while promoting positive behaviour and inclusion.
- Work closely with staff, parents, and carers while completing training and developing childcare skills and knowledge.

Key Responsibilities (Level 2/3)

- Deliver high-quality care and learning opportunities in line with the EYFS
- Observe, assess, and plan for children's next steps
- Build positive and trusting relationships with children, families and colleagues
- Maintain accurate developmental records
- Follow all safeguarding, health & safety and statutory requirements

About You

We welcome applicants who are:

- Seeking an apprenticeship or a new career in Early Years Childcare, and willing to complete an apprenticeship/training programme
- Qualified Level 2 Practitioners, or
- Qualified Level 3 Practitioners.

You will:

- Bring energy, creativity, and a genuine love for working with young children;
- Create a warm, safe, and inspiring environment where every child can thrive;
- Be a positive team player with strong communication and relationship-building skills;
- Show enthusiasm for learning, developing new skills, and growing your childcare career;
- Be committed to providing high-quality care, play, and learning experiences every day.

All roles are subject to safer recruitment checks, including an Enhanced DBS with Barred List check.

Why Join Us?

Alongside a supportive, friendly working environment, we offer an excellent benefits package:

Staff Benefits

- Free wraparound care for your own children
- Reduced nursery fees at Little VIPs Day Care
- 4-day working week for full-time staff, offering a better work-life balance
- Access to the Local Government Pension Scheme
- Generous annual leave entitlement plus bank holidays, increasing with service
- Occupational sick pay and wellbeing support
- Free access to mental health and occupational health services
- Ongoing training, CPD, and career progression opportunities
- Strong support for apprentices and qualified practitioners alike
- The opportunity to work in a beautiful rural setting with exceptional outdoor learning opportunities
- A rewarding role where you can make a real difference in children's lives every day.

Join a friendly and supportive team where your contribution is valued, your development is encouraged, and your wellbeing matters.

Interested? Come and Visit Us!

We warmly welcome visits.

Please contact:

- **Nursery Manager:** Hayley Fassam – hayley.fassam@lowther.cumbria.sch.uk

More information: www.lowther.cumbria.sch.uk

How to Apply

Please send completed applications to: **head@lowther.cumbria.sch.uk**

This is a rolling advert.