Academic expertise
Many of our lecturers have international reputations in specialist fields including education, psychology, sociology and law.

Make a difference
Our experts actively research topics that affect children and young people to help you make a positive impact in your studies.

Multidisciplinary
This degree goes beyond the boundaries of traditional childhood studies to include education, psychology, social work and law.

Rewarding careers
Our sought-after graduates work with charities and non-profit organisations, pursuing careers in social work, teaching and educational psychology.

bristol.ac.uk/ug-study
Why study childhood studies at Bristol?

We are one of only a few universities in the UK to offer a truly interdisciplinary approach to the study of children and young people's lives from birth to 19 years of age. Here you’ll benefit from a flexible approach that allows you to pursue study in areas such as sociology, psychology, law, and social policy. Our School for Policy Studies is home to internationally renowned lecturers and researchers from a wide range of disciplines – an ideal environment for you to explore your interests and delve into a specialism.

Through academic study, theoretical understanding and thoughtful debate, our students explore real-world issues that include children's rights (nationally and globally), environment justice, child neglect, adolescent crime and radicalisation. You will benefit from studying with active researchers whose work is focused on children and families.

You can choose to study childhood studies on its own, or in combination with innovation or management. We also offer a Study Abroad degree that allows you to spend your third year at one of our partner universities overseas, taking units from the broader social sciences or arts and humanities.

Find out more
Entry requirements, course structure and units
bristol.ac.uk/ug2021-childhood

Q-Step programme
We offer the option of three- and four-year degree programmes that combine core disciplinary learning with enhanced quantitative skills training in applied data analysis relevant to research in the social sciences. Find out more about our 'with Quantitative Research Methods' course offerings at: bristol.ac.uk/qstep.

What you will study
All our degrees are designed to introduce you to the interdisciplinary study of childhood and adolescence and allow you to specialise as you progress through the degree.

The first year enables you to explore constructions of childhood and to discuss contemporary issues, debates and challenges in global childhood. You will begin to develop an understanding of child psychology and education that will further your critical academic and research skills.

Subsequent years allow you to develop your own specific pathway through the degree, depending on your particular interests and career choice. For example, you might follow a pathway in education, psychology, early years provision, social work, or law and justice, or you may choose a mix of units across pathways. Sample units may include: Child and Adolescent Psychology; Children and Young People in the Law; Education, Schooling and Diversity; or you may choose to undertake a work placement.

‘I’ve enjoyed the multidisciplinary aspect of my course, which means I have a better understanding of the roots of relevant problems and possible solutions.’

Alena (BSc Childhood Studies)

Providing a backdrop to your studies is Bristol, a vibrant city enriched by cultural diversity. Several units include visits to experience different provision for children, young people and families across the city.

The research carried out in the School for Policy Studies makes an enormous impact on policies and practice to improve people’s lives. Explore examples of how our research has made a difference: bristol.ac.uk/sps/research/impact.

You can choose to take a four-year Study Abroad degree, with a year studying in English at one of our prestigious partner universities overseas. Partner locations have included: Australia, Japan (pictured), Sweden, the Netherlands, or the US. Find out more: bristol.ac.uk/go-abroad.
Courses

BSc Childhood Studies
BSc Childhood Studies with Study Abroad
MSci Childhood Studies with Innovation
BSc / MSci Childhood Studies with Quantitative Research Methods

Connect with the School for Policy Studies

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This leaflet contains information for students planning to start university in autumn 2021. We have made every effort to ensure all details are correct at the time of going to press (May 2020). However, since this information is subject to change, you are advised to check the University’s website, bristol.ac.uk/ug-study for the latest updates. Any sample units listed are indicative and offerings may change due to developments in the relevant academic field. Unit availability varies depending on staffing, student choice and timetabling constraints.