



**All you need to know about the  
Peep Learning Together  
Progression Pathway**

## 1 Introduction

Thank you for participating in the Peep Learning Together Progression Pathway. We hope you will enjoy the experience and knowledge gained through:

- completing your keepsake book (assessed portfolio)
- taking part in the group
- finding out how the everyday things you already do with your child helps support their development
- building on these everyday experiences

This handbook will explain:

- ✓ what to expect
- ✓ how the course will be delivered
- ✓ getting your certificate
- ✓ what you could progress on to
- ✓ how to describe the Peep Progression Pathway to an employer or an education provider (for example, college)
- ✓ how to get started

## 2 What is the Peep Progression Pathway?

The Peep Progression Pathway was created by Peeple, a charity that supports parents and carers to learn together with their child(ren). It is made up of a number of units (sometimes referred to as 'programmes' or 'courses') that are offered through your local Peep sessions. These units are offered on a wide variety of topics relating to the development of your child and the learning they already do every day at home with you.

The units are open to **everyone** and are recognised on a framework called the SCQF (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework) which shows the different levels of learning. The units are offered at three different levels – SCQF Level 3, 4 and 5 (*more on this later - Section 5*).

Support will be given to anyone who needs a hand with reading or writing and your Peep practitioner will be there to guide you whenever you need it. If there is anything else you would like to tell us (in confidence) that you feel will help us to support you, please have a chat with your Peep practitioner.

### 3 What to expect

To participate in the Peep Progression Pathway you will need to:

- attend the Peep sessions with your baby/child
- work your way through completing a Keepsake Book showing how you and your baby/child are learning together. *(Note: this may sometimes be referred to as an assessed portfolio, but we prefer to call it a 'Keepsake Book'.)*

#### Peep Sessions

The Peep Progression Pathway is delivered through Peep sessions that happen regularly over a number of weeks (confirmed by your Peep practitioner). In order to participate in the Peep Progression Pathway, you should be able to attend all, or most of the Peep sessions. We understand that things come up, and you may need to miss a couple of sessions. You will still be welcome to participate in the Peep Progression Pathway and there will be an opportunity to catch up on missed sessions.

#### Keepsake Book

During or after the group, you will work your way through completing a keepsake book. The keepsake book will provide memories of important milestones and events in your child's life, and the learning together you **already** do every day at home. We'd love for you to personalise your keepsake book by adding photos, drawings and anything else you feel is meaningful. Your Peep practitioner will share information during the sessions that will help you to complete your keepsake book. You will also have the opportunity to share experiences with other parents and carers that you will find useful for answering the questions in your keepsake book.

Your Peep practitioner will want to take a look at your keepsake book on a regular basis to make sure you're getting on okay and to give you hints and tips on how to add more detail to your book if needed.

### 4 How the course will be delivered

The course will be delivered by a Peep practitioner and will include songs (you don't have to sing if you don't feel comfortable), stories, activities and a talk time. The talk time is when the Peep practitioner will have a chat about a topic relevant to your child's development (for example, sleep patterns, baby noises etc.), and you and the other parents/carers can share your experiences.

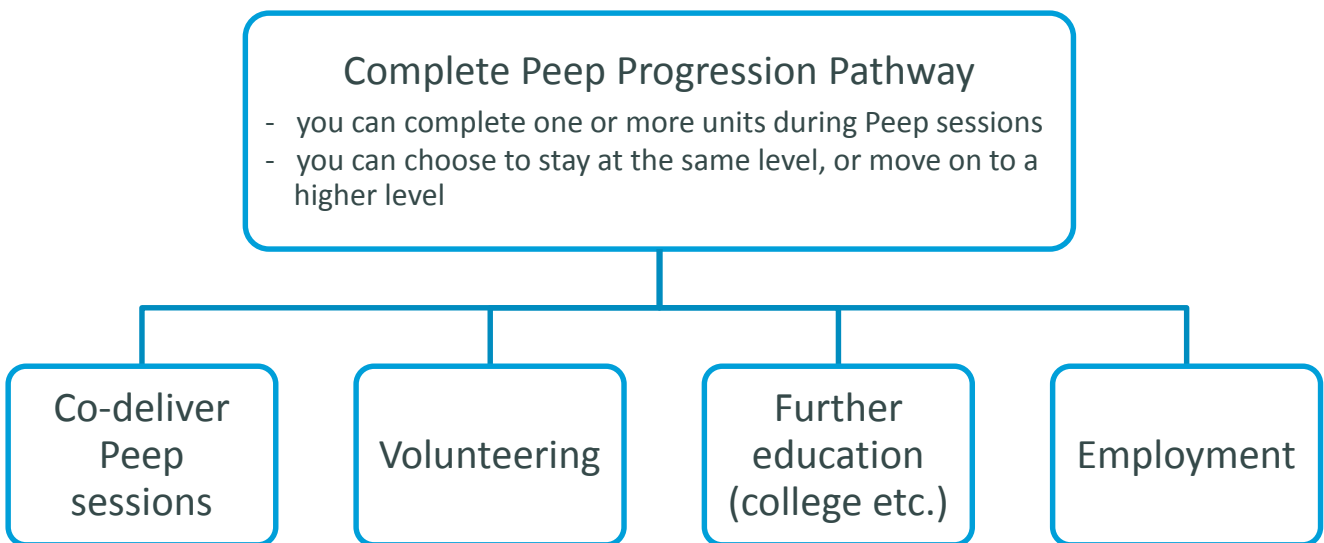
You are welcome to take your keepsake book home to work on – please remember to bring it back the following week! Your Peep practitioner may also offer opportunities to complete some of the pages during the sessions too. Have a chat with your Peep practitioner if you have difficulties finding the time to work on your keepsake book – they might have some ideas that will help you.

## 5 Getting your certificate

Once you have completed your keepsake book, and the Peep practitioner has checked it over, your details will be registered to receive a certificate. Completion of your course will give you something called a 'credit-rated unit' and is worth either 2, 3 or 4 'credit points'. The number of credit points shows the value of your unit.

The units are recognised on the SCQF (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework). This framework is used widely by colleges, universities and employers and shows what level of learning you have achieved.

## 6 What could you progress on to?



If you feel like you want to progress on from learning in Peep sessions, there are several exciting options available to you:

- Co-deliver Peep sessions** Speak to your Peep practitioner to see if it's possible for you to help deliver Peep in your area. Some parents/carers have chosen to do this through volunteering, and others have found paid employment co-delivering Peep groups as sessional staff.
- Volunteering** Your Peep practitioner may be able to tell you about volunteering opportunities in your local area. Other good sources of advice on volunteering can be found on [www.volunteerscotland.net](http://www.volunteerscotland.net) or on [www.projectsotland.co.uk](http://www.projectsotland.co.uk) (parents/carers aged 18-30).
- Further Education** People is setting up agreements with local colleges to offer guaranteed interviews and, in some cases guaranteed places on childcare-related courses. There are full-time and part-time options available to suit your needs. College agreements are for parents and carers who have completed two Peep Progression Pathway units – speak to your Peep practitioner for more details on college agreements. If you are considering attending further education we also recommend that you contact student services within the college to seek advice on finances and childcare.
- Employment** Through the Peep Progression Pathway, you will be able to build on skills that are needed in the workplace - problem solving, completing a project, working with others etc. These skills can be used in a very wide variety of work settings, and can be added to your CV (curriculum vitae). We know that the types of work you may be interested in will differ greatly. Some parents/carers have taken part in the Peep Progression Pathway to give them a taste of what it might be like to work in:
- Early Years
  - Adult Learning
  - Play
  - Family Learning
  - Social Care

*'We have a parent who is considering volunteering or going to college to do early years, when her child turns four. I think Peep is a good vehicle to have a taste at it and decide if it's something they'd like to do before committing to a college course' Practitioner*

*'I really enjoyed finding out about how your child is learning so much from what you do with them from day to day stuff and new ways to improve their learning. I like getting new ideas and finding out about different ways to play with my son' Parent*

## 7 How to explain the Peep Progression Pathway to an employer or an education provider (for example, college)

It is important to know how to communicate your learning to an employer or education provider so that they understand what you have achieved. This can be done in two ways:

**CV** You should record the Peep Progression Pathway within the 'education' or 'training' sections of your CV and you would list the unit as it is on your certificate for example, SCQF Level 3 Development of Babies, SCQF Level 4 Communication and Language (Pre-school Development).

**Job / College application / Interview** Within an application, you should provide examples of how you meet the essential and desirable criteria within the job advert. You can use an example from the Peep Progression Pathway if you choose – perhaps something around 'working with others'. You may want to include something along the lines of:

*'I attended Peep sessions for x months. Peep is an adult learning programme where parents/carers learn together with their children on a wide range of topics relating to child development. As part of the Peep sessions I was involved in group and 1-1 discussions relating to my experiences of learning together with my baby/child. Through this I have developed by communication skills – both speaking and listening, and feel that I am better equipped to support others and respect their ideas and opinions. As a result I not only learned x about my child and how to improve learning at home, but I also successfully completed an SCQF Level 5 unit in Early Maths relating to Toddler Development'*

It's important when completing your CV, an application or interview that you are specific with the length of time you were learning, who was involved and what the result was. A useful tool in building examples to use these situations is the STAR Technique (Situation, Task, Action, Result). For more information, go to <http://lifehacker.com/5960201/use-the-star-technique-to-ace-your-interviews>.

## 8 How do I get started and what else do I need to know?

To get started, all you need to do is complete a **Learner Registration Form** – you may have been given one with this Handbook, if not then ask your Peep Practitioner for a copy. Your Peep Practitioner will guide you through everything you need to be aware of that relates to learning within a Peep session. It is important for you to get in touch with Peep directly if there are any issues that can't be fixed by your Peep practitioner. We're here to help, and we'd love to hear from you! We want to make the learning as good as it can be for parents and carers, so your feedback is always gratefully received.

Your Peep practitioner is your first point of contact for any queries or concerns about your learning. If you wish to speak to Peep directly about anything, please feel to contact Denise Millan, Qualifications Co-ordinator directly on [denise.millan@peep.org.uk](mailto:denise.millan@peep.org.uk) or on 0131 446 3715 or on 07442 500 693. If you prefer, you can drop us a line at Peep, Eric Liddell Centre, 15 Morningside Road, Office 3F3, Edinburgh, EH10 4DP.