

Qualification factsheet

Qualification overview

Qualification title	NCFE CACHE Level 3 Extended Diploma for Children’s Care Learning and Development (Northern Ireland)		
Qualification number (QN)	603/7477/9		
Total qualification time (TQT):	1360	Guided learning hours (GL)	1022
UCAS	This qualification has been allocated UCAS points. Please refer to the UCAS website for further details of the points allocation and the most up-to-date information.		
Entry requirements:	<p>This qualification is designed to provide learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills essential to children’s care, learning and development within Northern Ireland. It will support progression into higher education or the workplace.</p> <p>Entry is at the discretion of the centre. However, learners should be aged 16 or above to undertake this qualification. There are no specific prior skills/knowledge a learner must have for this qualification. However, learners may find it helpful if they have already achieved a level 2 qualification</p>		

About this qualification

This qualification is designed to provide learners with the underpinning knowledge and skills needed when working with children. It covers a diverse range of job roles and occupational areas in children’s settings, including early years. The qualification then builds on this knowledge and provides extended knowledge and skills to further learners’ understanding and provide a stepping stone into higher education.

This qualification is nested with the Level 3 Diploma for Children’s Care, Learning and Development (Northern Ireland). Successful achievement of the diploma units will confirm competence in these areas and serve as the required qualification for all new practitioners for registration and regulatory requirements in Northern Ireland.

Terminology relating to autism in this document

Autism is described by The National Autistic Society as a complex, lifelong developmental disability that typically appears during early childhood and can impact a person's social skills, communication, relationships, and self-regulation. Individual preference regarding terminology used for individuals with autism may vary and must be valued and respected.

Our qualifications and associated materials are reviewed regularly to ensure that they remain fit for purpose, however terms may be change. The National Autistic Society provides a useful source for accurate terms and reference and can be found here: <https://www.autism.org.uk/>

Qualification structure

To achieve this qualification learners are required to successfully complete **136 overall credits**:

- **56 credits** from the 8 diploma mandatory units
- **14 credits** from the diploma optional units, of which there are 13
- **66 credits** from the 7 extended diploma graded mandatory units
- 1 external assessment.

Diploma mandatory units

L/618/1648 Context and principles for the early years sector – Theme 1
R/618/1649 Communication and partnership working – Theme 2
J/618/1650 Safeguarding children – Theme 3
L/618/1651 Keeping children safe, healthy and well – Theme 4
R/618/1652 Support children’s personal care and nutrition – Theme 5
Y/618/1653 Supporting children’s development – Theme 6
D/618/1654 Supporting children’s play opportunities and experiences of play – Theme 7
H/618/1655 Contribute to the support of children with disabilities and/or special needs – Theme 8

Extended diploma mandatory units

L/618/7059 Developing study skills for professional practice
F/618/7060 Enabling play environments
J/618/7061 Partnership working in early years
L/618/7062 Understanding perspectives on childhood in society
R/618/7063 Understand the role of the practitioner when supporting children with special educational needs and disability
Y/618/7064 Understand neuroscience in early years
D/618/7065 Planning for improved outcomes when working with babies and children in an early years setting

Diploma optional units

F/600/9777 Understand the needs of children and young people who are vulnerable and experiencing poverty and disadvantage
T/601/0134 Support disabled children and young people and those with specific requirements
K/601/0132 Support children or young people in their own home
H/502/4682 Enable parents to develop ways of handling relationships and behaviour that contribute to everyday life with children
Y/502/4663 Engage fathers in their children’s early learning
K/601/3225 Promote children in early years settings acquiring a new language through immersion
K/618/1656 Support children with physical disabilities
M/618/1657 Support children with learning disabilities
T/618/1658 Support children with autistic spectrum conditions



A/618/1659 Support the learning and development of children with health needs
M/618/1660 Support children with sensory loss
D/601/5750 Support families who have a child with a disability
T/618/1661 Promote signing to advance speech, language and communication

Assessment

The assessment consists of 2 components:

- an internally assessed portfolio of evidence which is assessed by centre staff and externally quality assured by NCFE (internal quality assurance must still be completed by the centre as per usual)
- externally set and assessed extended assessment

Learners must be successful in both components to gain the Level 3 Extended Diploma for Children's Care Learning and Development (Northern Ireland).

Placement requirements

All learners **MUST** have access to either employment or work experience in a real work setting to support them to develop and practise their skills and apply their knowledge at an appropriate level. This ensures that learners are able to demonstrate consistent competence at level 3 to meet the requirements of the Level 3 Extended Diploma for Children's Care, Learning and Development (Northern Ireland) units. Please see the qualification specification for further information.

Progression opportunities

Learners who achieve this qualification could progress to higher education and/or a wide range of job roles within children's care, learning and development in Northern Ireland.



Contact us

NCFE
Q6
Quorum Park
Benton Lane
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE12 8BT

Tel: 0191 239 8000*
Fax: 0191 239 8001
Email: customersupport@ncfe.org.uk
Website: www.ncfe.org.uk

NCFE © Copyright 2023 All rights reserved worldwide.

Version 1.2 July 2023

Information in this qualification factsheet is correct at the time of publishing but may be subject to change.

NCFE is a registered charity (Registered Charity No. 1034808) and a company limited by guarantee (Company No. 2896700).

CACHE; Council for Awards in Care, Health and Education; and NNEB are registered trademarks owned by NCFE.

All the material in this publication is protected by copyright.

**** To continue to improve our levels of customer service, telephone calls may be recorded for training and quality purposes.***