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**Frequently asked questions -
Early Years Educator (EYE) /
Practitioner (EYP) qualifications –
knowledge only option 2021-22**

Frequently asked questions - Early Years Educator (EYE) / Practitioner (EYP) qualifications – knowledge only option 2021-22

We've put in place 'knowledge-only' (KNO) fall back options for our Early Years Educator and Early Years Practitioner qualifications (Table A) for those who may undergo difficulty in securing work placement opportunities throughout their studies. This will be available as an option from **4 April 2022**.

We've also produced this FAQ document to provide some useful additional information.

This is in relation to:

- Options for learners completing Level 2 EYP or Level 3 EYE
- Process of transferring to the KNO qualifications
- Process of transferring back to the original qualifications from the KNO qualifications
- Associated fees
- The transfer of learners
- Clarity on performance point inclusion
- Clarity on banked grades
- Clarification on completion of knowledge criteria
- Further details on Unit 16 contained within NCFE CACHE Technical Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education (knowledge only pathway).

Table A:

'Knowledge only' QRN	'Knowledge only' qualification titles
601/2147/6/KNO	NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Early Years Education and Care (Knowledge only pathway)

'Knowledge only' QRN	'Knowledge only' qualification titles
601/8438/3/KNO	NCFE CACHE Technical Level 3 Diploma in Early Years Education and Care (Knowledge only pathway)
601/2629/2/KNO	NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma for the Early Years Workforce (Knowledge only pathway)
601/4000/8/KNO	NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education (Knowledge only pathway)
601/8437/1/KNO	NCFE CACHE Technical Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education (Knowledge only pathway)
603/3723/0/KNO	NCFE CACHE Level 2 Diploma for the Early Years Practitioner (Knowledge only pathway)

What are the options for learners completing Level 2 EYP or Level 3 EYE this year (2021-22)?

The options for learners include:

- Completing the qualification using the 'risk rated approach' for Level 2 EYP or Level 3 EYE (please refer to the 'Adaptations' pages on [QualHub](#) by searching the relevant qualification). This will allow full certification and employment in ratio at Level 2 or Level 3 in early years settings as appropriate.
- Delaying certification and following the risk-rated approach. Late portal entries do not guarantee certification by published results days and learner progression must be a consideration here, for example, Level 2 to Level 3, and Level 3 to HE progression as appropriate.
- Transferring to a knowledge-only pathway. Funding and UCAS tariff points are not impacted and there is the option for 'top up' to full EYP or EYE status for learners.

What is the process for making a claim for a certificate for the 'knowledge only' versions of the EYE/EYP qualifications?

Please refer to the steps below:

1. Decide which learners you wish to transfer to the 'knowledge-only' versions of the qualifications.

2. Email customersupport@ncfe.org.uk the following information:

- The current batch number
- Which qualifications the learners are currently registered on and which qualifications you are requesting transfer to
- Each learner you wish to transfer, including their name, date of birth and ULN (if applicable).

Please ensure that you do not bank any achievement or grades in the meantime on the original versions of the qualifications for any learners that you're considering transferring to the knowledge only versions.

What do learners need to do to be eligible to 'transfer back' to the original?

Learners will need to spend sufficient time in placement, potentially a block placement in an early years setting, working through the criteria identified in the appropriate 'risk rated approach' document (found on [QualHub](#) on each qualification page under 'Adaptations'). You can use Expert Witness Testimony and triangulation or direct assessor observation for achievement of amber criteria and can follow the guidance for knowledge (grey), and alternative methods, (green). Once you are satisfied of competence, you can claim for the full qualification.

What is the process for transferring learners back to the original qualification from the knowledge versions?

The process for transferring back to the original qualification is as follows:

- login to the portal
- click on 'my learners'
- search for learner or knowledge only batch number
- select the learner/s
- select 'top up' and enter the original qualification number
- confirm selections

Any prior achievement on the knowledge only version will be automatically transferred to the original qualification as part of the 'transfer back'.

Commented [SH1]: New question added, awaiting on Charlotte in CST to confirm wording re 'knowledge only' batch number



Will learners be able to use the risk rated approach to ‘top up’?

We do not anticipate changes to the risk rated approach for these impacted learners. However, we’ll be guided by the Department for Education (DfE) and any further reviews over time.

Is there a time limit for learners who want to transfer back to the full qualification to work in ratio?

For learners registered on an original EYE or EYP qualification, there is no time limit set by us, although RPL policy and associated procedures may be time constrained, and attention should be given to such requirements. For example, where a policy dictates that learning that has taken place outside of the scope of the policy, requirements would need to be further strengthened to confirm competency.

What happens to any banked grades that have been submitted on the original qualifications?

We’ll ensure that any banked grades that have already been submitted on the original versions are carried over to the knowledge only versions of the qualifications as part of the transfer.

What is the process for transferring learners back to the original qualification from the knowledge only versions?

We’re currently finalising the process for transferring back to the original qualification and will communicate the process soon.

Will qualifications count in the 2022 Performance Tables?

Any performance table qualifications, with a knowledge only fall back option, **will not** count in performance tables for completing students in 2022. This is because they don’t contain all the same characteristics (employer engagement) as performance table qualifications to meet the requirements to be included in performance table measures.

What is the process for transferring learners back to the original qualification from the knowledge versions?

The process for transferring back to the original qualification is as follows:

- Login to the portal
- Click on 'my learners'
- Search for learner or knowledge only batch number
- Select the learner/s
- Select 'top up' and enter the original qualification number
- Confirm selections.

Any prior achievement on the knowledge only version will be automatically transferred to the original qualification as part of the 'transfer back'.

What needs to be completed by learners wishing to undertake the 'knowledge-only' versions of the qualifications?

Knowledge-only QRN	Knowledge-only qualification titles	What needs to be completed?
603/3723/0/KNO	NCFE CACHE Level 2 Diploma for the Early Years Practitioner (Knowledge only pathway)	All knowledge-only criteria must be achieved. Most units are a combination of knowledge and skills and therefore will show partial completion but can be claimed in full. The certificate will identify learners as having completed the knowledge-only pathway.
601/2147/6/KNO	NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Early Years Education and Care (Knowledge only pathway)	All knowledge-only criteria must be achieved. Most units are a combination of knowledge and skills and therefore will show partial completion but can be claimed in full. The certificate will identify learners as having completed the knowledge-only pathway. Learners may use the adapted Longitudinal Study (Unit 3.15) found on Qual Hub on the qualification page under 'Adaptations' as appropriate.
601/8438/3/KNO	NCFE CACHE Technical Level 3 Diploma in Early Years Education and Care (Knowledge only pathway)	All knowledge-only criteria must be achieved. Most units are a combination of knowledge and skills and therefore will show partial completion but can be claimed in full. The

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		<p>certificate will identify learners as having completed the knowledge-only pathway. Learners may use the adapted Longitudinal Study (Unit 3.15) found on Qual Hub on the qualification page under 'Adaptations' as appropriate.</p>
601/2629/2/KNO	<p>NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma for the Early Years Workforce (Knowledge only pathway)</p>	<p>All knowledge-only criteria must be achieved. Most units are a combination of knowledge and skills and therefore will show partial completion but can be claimed in full. The certificate will identify learners as having completed the knowledge-only pathway. Learners may use the adapted Longitudinal Study (Unit 3.15) found on Qual Hub on the qualification page under 'Adaptations' as appropriate.</p>
601/4000/8/KNO	<p>NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education (Knowledge only pathway)</p>	<p>Unit 8 and Unit 15 knowledge criteria must be met to generate both unit grades. The competencies for both Professional Practice Portfolios do not need to be achieved.</p>
601/8437/1/KNO	<p>NCFE CACHE Technical Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education (Knowledge only pathway)</p>	<p>Learners will have completed some aspects of Unit 16 even if they have not been on placement or placement is limited. The aim of this professional practice portfolio (Unit 16, T/508/1517) is to show theoretical application through skills and competence development in Early Years settings. However, as part of the knowledge-only version of the qualification, only specific outcomes need to be achieved. Table B below contains details of the relevant criteria that need to be met and where this is linked</p>

Knowledge-only QRN	Knowledge-only qualification titles	What needs to be completed?
		<p>to other units within the qualification. By completing the relevant linked units, centres will be able to demonstrate their partial achievement of Unit 16 and therefore claim for this. If, at a later date, learners wish to embark on the original version of the NCFE CACHE Technical Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education (Early Years Educator), they will need to ensure that all knowledge and skills criteria are achieved by producing evidence from real work environments (as appropriate) to the top-up route.</p>

Table B:

T/508/1517, Unit 16, Professional Practice Portfolio Learning outcomes/Assessment criteria to be completed:	Link to knowledge unit:
<p>17 Be able to facilitate play opportunities with children.</p> <p>17.4. Explain how play opportunities should provide a balance between child-initiated and adult-led play.</p>	Unit 5
<p>20. Be able to provide enabling play environments.</p> <p>20.1. Plan an enabling play environment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • indoors • outdoors. 	Unit 2
<p>23 Be able to maintain accurate and coherent records in line with organisational requirements.</p> <p>23.1. Explain confidentiality in relation to recordkeeping and reporting.</p>	Unit 3

31. Be able to use reflective practice to contribute to own professional development. 31.1. Develop a Curriculum Vitae. 31.2. Review own learning needs, professional interests, and development opportunities. 31.3. Devise own Professional Development Plan in relation to: • feedback obtained • own progress • own goals and ambition. 31.5. Explain how reflective practice leads to improved ways of working.	Unit 13