

Qualification Factsheet

Qualification overview

Qualification title	NCFE CACHE Level 3 Technical Occupational Entry in Montessori Pedagogy – Birth to Seven (Early Years Educator) (Diploma)
Qualification number (QN)	610/3983/4
Guided learning hours (GLH)	Total: 690 GLH (includes 400 work/placement hours)
Total qualification time (TQT)	760
Entry requirements	<p>Registration is at the discretion of the centre in accordance with equality legislation and should be made on the NCFE Portal.</p> <p>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 previous level 2 qualification that is full and relevant or holds transferable skills preparing learners to study at level 3.</p> <p>This qualification is available for learners aged 19 and above in England only.</p>

About this qualification

This qualification is designed to provide learners with the expertise, skills and professional approach needed to become a Montessori educator, acting as a key person in a Montessori classroom.

This qualification confirms competence in an occupational role and learners are required to demonstrate the full application of knowledge and understanding over a period of time in the workplace.

This qualification will support learners who are seeking a career within the early years sector and who may also want to progress further to level 4.

This qualification includes both knowledge and skills that meet the Department for Education (DfE) Early Years Educator (EYE) criteria in full and map to the knowledge, skills and behaviours (KSBs) within the Early Years Educator occupational standard in England.

Qualification structure

To be awarded this qualification, learners are required to successfully complete all 13 mandatory units.

Mandatory units

Theme 1: theory
L3MP 1 Study skills (R/651/0869)
L3MP 2 The Montessori philosophy (A/651/0870)
L3MP 3 Principles of child development and observation in an early years Montessori learning environment (D/651/0871)
Theme 2: early years best practice
L3MP 4 Contemporary early childhood practice in an early years Montessori learning environment (F/651/0872)
L3MP 5 Promoting children's health and wellbeing in an early years Montessori learning environment (H/651/0873)
Theme 3: Montessori curriculum
L3MP 6 Activities of everyday living in an early years Montessori learning environment (J/651/0874)
L3MP 7 Education of the senses in an early years Montessori learning environment (K/651/0875)
L3MP 8 Numeracy and arithmetic in an early years Montessori learning environment (L/651/0876)
L3MP 9 Literacy in an early years Montessori learning environment (R/651/0878)
L3MP 10 Knowledge and understanding of the world in an early years Montessori learning environment (T/651/0879)
L3MP 11 Creativity in an early years Montessori learning environment (F/651/0881)
Theme 4: professional placement
L3MP 12 Developing own Montessori practice in professional placement (J/651/0883)
L3MP 13 Developing own Montessori principles in professional placement (L/651/0885)

Assessment

This qualification is internally assessed and externally quality assured.

The assessment consists of one component:

- 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 usual)

The assessment methods for the skills-based criteria should include:

- **direct observation** of learner in work placement/employment (**it is essential to include observations**)
- **professional discussions**
- **reflective accounts**
- **expert witness testimonies** from lead practitioner and accompanied by professional discussion (where required) to triangulate the evidence (only to be used when observation would not be appropriate)
- **work products**, for example, policies, reports and records that can be used to underpin or move a professional discussion forward

Skills-based outcomes must be achieved in work placement/environment and in accordance with assessment principles; they are typically achieved throughout the duration of the programme of study to allow for increasing confidence and competence in practice. Simulation may be permitted for some skills-based outcomes; centres should refer to the delivery and assessment guidance within each unit for further details.

Learners who are not successful can resubmit work within the registration period; however, a charge may apply in cases where additional external quality assurance visits are required.

Placement requirements

This qualification requires learners to complete a minimum of **400** hours of mandatory work placement experience throughout the duration of the qualification, before certification.

This will need to be in the form of a professional placement in an approved Montessori early years setting for a minimum of 400 hours.

Some of the assessment criteria (AC) in this qualification must be assessed on the professional placement. Evidence from the professional placement will contribute to the learner's portfolio of evidence.

The skills-based learning outcomes (LOs) associated with work placement experience have been included as part of guided learning hours (GLH) within each unit (where relevant). The GLH have been allocated as knowledge and work placement experience to support with delivery.

Progression opportunities

Learners who achieve this qualification could progress to the following:

- employment:
 - educator in day nurseries
 - educator in nursery schools
 - educator in reception classes in primary schools
 - pre-school worker
- further education:
 - early years education
- higher education – personal statements may be accepted by universities



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