



Purpose statement

**NCFE Level 2 Award in Graphic Design
QN: 603/0845/X**

Who is this qualification for?

Graphic Design is a form of visual communication. It is a process by which visual information is given form and structure, so as to communicate a message.

Being a Graphic Designer is the profession of visual communication that combines images, words and ideas to convey information to an audience. It involves designing print or electronic forms of visual information for advertisement, publication or website.

Graphic Design should not be confused with Art and Design or Product Design. It is distinct from these subjects and should be treated as so.

The NCFE Level 2 Award in Graphic Design complements GCSE qualifications. It is aimed at 14-16 year olds studying Key Stage 4 curriculum who are interested in any aspect of graphic design, including sourcing ideas and design. It is equivalent to GCSE grades 8.5-4.

This qualification focuses on an applied study of the graphic design sector and learners will gain a broad understanding and knowledge of working in the sector.

This qualification has been designed to sit alongside the requirements of core GCSE subjects and is appropriate for learners who are motivated and challenged by learning through hands-on experiences and through content which is concrete and related directly to those experiences.

This Level 2 qualification is appropriate for learners who are looking to develop a significant core of knowledge and understanding in graphic design, and an understanding of how to apply their learning to the graphic design sector. This qualification has overlapping content with the Level 1 qualification (603/0844/8). This is not intended as progression from the Level 1 qualification.

What will the learner study as part of this qualification?

This qualification shows learners how to:

- identify and experiment with graphic design components
- explore graphic designers, their work and working in the industry
- work to graphic design briefs, refining and selecting ideas
- form a graphic design portfolio and explore creative direction.

What knowledge and skills will the learner develop as part of this qualification and how might these be of use and value in further studies?

Learners will develop skills and knowledge:

- in using different tools and equipment competently
- when experimenting with materials and techniques
- in adapting their own ideas and responding to feedback
- in evaluating their own work
- that are essential for the modern workplace, such as team working; presentation skills; independent working; working to deadlines; efficient use of resources.

Successful completion of these qualifications will fulfil the entry requirements for relevant academic and vocational study post-16.

The knowledge and skills gained will provide a secure foundation for careers in the graphic design industry.

Which subjects will complement this course?

The following subject areas will complement this course:

- Design and Technology
- Art and Design
- Creative Media.

However, this list is not exhaustive and a range of other subject areas may also be appropriate.

What could this qualification lead to?

Learners who achieve this V Cert qualification could progress onto Level 3 qualifications and A Levels, such as:

- Level 3 Applied General Certificate in Art & Design
- A Level Design and Technology.

Further Information

For more information about the NCFE Level 2 Award in Graphic Design, please see the Support Materials tab on the qualification page of our website.