

Qualification factsheet

Qualification overview

Qualification title	NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Playwork		
Qualification number (QN)	610/0645/2		
UCAS points	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.		
Total qualification time (TQT):	530	Guided learning hours (GLH)	458
Entry requirements:	<p>This qualification is designed for learners who work, or wish to work, with children between the ages of 4 and 16 in playwork settings.</p> <p>Learners should be at least 18 years old. We do not set any other entry requirements but colleges or training providers may have their own guidelines.</p> <p>Entry is at the discretion of the centre, in accordance with the Equality Act 2010 and Northern Ireland equality law.</p> <p>There are no specific prior skills or 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 provides in-depth information about the role of the level 3 playworker.

The diploma covers the knowledge and skills needed when working unsupervised and requires the learner to demonstrate these in the workplace.

The NCFE Level 3 Diploma in Playwork (610/0645/2) is also nested within the NCFE Level 3 Certificate in Understanding Playwork (610/0644/0), allowing for progression opportunities.

It is aimed at experienced playworkers who have an appreciation of the playwork principles and practice.

This qualification reflects the national occupational standards (NOS) 2016 and confers competence to lead practice in a playwork setting at level 3.

This qualification aims to:

- focus on the study of the role of the playworker
- offer breadth and depth of study, incorporating a key core of knowledge
- provide opportunities to acquire a number of practical and technical skills

The objectives of this qualification are to:

- acquire knowledge and understanding of the occupational role of the level 3 playworker in context
- demonstrate competence required for professional practice in the role of the level 3 playworker

This qualification can also be undertaken as part of the Welsh playwork apprenticeship framework. Apprenticeship information and the latest documents are available from Apprenticeship Certificate Wales <https://acwcerts.co.uk/web/frameworks-library>. These should always be consulted to ensure that all mandatory qualifications, units, assessment, on-the-job hours and apprenticeship conditions are achieved and evidenced.

Qualification structure

To be awarded this qualification, learners are required to successfully achieve **53 credits: 43 credits from the 13 mandatory units** and a further **10 credits from the optional units**.

Mandatory units*

*These units are shared with the NCFE CACHE Level 3 Certificate in Understanding Playwork (610/0644/0).

L3CD PW1 Understand play and the playwork principles (J/650/0596)*
L3CD PW2 Creating supporting environments for children's play (K/650/0597)*
L3CD PW3 Understand how to support the safeguarding of children in the playwork setting (L/650/0598)*
L3CD PW4 Understand organisational frameworks to protect the rights of children (R/650/0616)*
L3CD PW5 Understand play and wellbeing (M/650/0599)*
L3CD PW6 Understand relationships in the playwork setting (D/650/0600)*
L3CD PW7 Understand health, safety and security in the playwork setting (F/650/0601)*
L3CD PW8 Engage in professional development and reflective practice (H/650/0602)*
L3D PW9 Contribute to organisational frameworks to respond to all children's needs and preferences (J/650/0603)
L3D PW10 Maintain healthy, safe and secure environments in playwork (K/650/0604)
L3D PW11 Develop and promote relationships in the playwork setting (L/650/0605)
L3D PW12 Prepare for and support children's play (M/650/0606)
L3D PW13 Supporting inclusion in a playwork setting (R/650/0607)

Optional units

L3D PWOP1 Explore different perspectives and influences on playwork (Y/650/0609)
L3D PWOP2 Organise travel for children (F/650/0610)
L3D PWOP3 Promote own playwork organisation (H/650/0611)
L3D PWOP4 Working in partnership with other organisations and individuals (J/650/0612)
L3D PWOP5 Working with children with additional needs and disabilities in a playwork setting (K/650/0613)
L3D PWOP6 Working with parents, carers and families (L/650/0614)
L3D PWOP7 Understand teamwork for quality playwork practice (M/650/0615)
L3D PWOP8 Understand how to contribute towards running a playwork setting (A/650/1717)
L3D PWOP9 Provide food and drink in a playwork setting (D/650/1718)



L3D PWOP10 Facilitating adventure playgrounds (F/650/1719)

Assessment

This qualification is internally assessed and externally quality assured via a portfolio of evidence.

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 (IQA) must still be completed by the centre as usual)

Placement requirements

The Level 3 Diploma in Playwork requires learners to complete a mandatory work placement experience throughout the duration of the qualification, before certification.

Progression opportunities

Learners who achieve this qualification could progress to the following:

- employment:
 - before and after school clubs
 - holiday playschemes
 - adventure playgrounds
 - open access play settings
 - play rangers
- higher education:
 - other higher level qualifications relating to playwork
 - NCFE CACHE Level 5 Diploma in Advanced Playwork (Wales) (Practitioner) (601/5370/2/PRAC)
 - NCFE CACHE Level 5 Diploma in Advanced Playwork (Wales) (Manager) (601/5370/2/MAN)
 - qualifications in other sectors (for example, youth work)



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

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