

Children and young people qualifications

Learners' information



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As the leading provider of vocational qualifications in the UK, we have the most extensive range of Children and Young People qualifications. This means we have the right qualification at the right level for anyone who works, or wants to work, in the children and young people sector.


This guide gives details of the types and levels of vocational qualifications on offer, and then explores the details of our Children and Young People portfolio, allowing you to find the most suitable qualification to meet your needs.

Why City & Guilds?

The choice is simple. As the largest vocational education provider, we have over 6000 centres across the UK, so we are bound to have one close to you. But more importantly, a City & Guilds qualification is regarded as the benchmark in proving to employers you have the skills, knowledge and competence to do your job, and will be recognised throughout the UK. So with a City & Guilds qualification there is only one way your career can go and that's up!



Qualification title	Type	Levels	Description	City & Guilds number
Children and Young People Services				
Children's Care Learning and Development (CCLD)	NVQ/ SVQ	2-4	Designed to help anyone in a Children's Care Learning and Development setting, working with children in the age range of 0-16, to prove their skills. There are three levels, with one to suit everyone, from those working in a supporting role, right up to managers.	3171/ 3174
Children's Care Learning and Development, Certificate (CCLD)	VRQ	2-3	This qualification is the approved Technical Certificate for CCLD. It is also a stand alone certificate and the perfect complement to the City & Guilds N/SVQ. At two levels, it is designed for people who are both new to this field or those who need help building or confirming their knowledge, skills and understanding in order to progress their career. The level 2 VRQ is also suitable for 14-16 year-old learners.	3177
Work with Children	VRQ	3	This qualification is specifically designed for workers (aged over 25 years, working in a level 3 role) in an early years or playwork setting, who have gained sufficient experience and learning in their setting to have this formally accredited through a fast-track system. This is via assessment of prior experience and learning (APEL).	3596
Playwork				
Playwork	NVQ	2-4	These City & Guilds NVQs cover all the skills and knowledge essential to prove competence as a professional playworker (eg crèches, after-school and holiday play clubs). Level 2 is suitable for playworkers, level 3 is for supervisors and level 4 is for playwork managers.	4833/ 4834
Playwork	VRQ	2-3	These are suitable for anyone who works or wants to work with school aged children (typically 4-16) in a variety of playwork settings, which could include after-school clubs, adventure playgrounds, play schemes, or as school lunch supervisors. It is the ideal compliment to the NVQs. This qualification allows you to choose between the full diploma and a smaller certificate.	6978
Transitional Awards				
Award in Early Years and Childcare for Playworkers	VRQ	3	One of two 'transitional' awards designed to help you make the move from playwork to early years care, if you already hold a relevant qualification in that area. A relevant qualification is considered to be one that appears on the NQF of the four nations. ie Transition for someone holding a level 3 Playwork award, to working in the early years sector.	3177-10
Award in Playwork for Early Years and Childcare Workers	VRQ	3	The second 'transitional' award to help you make the switch from early years care to playwork, if you already hold a relevant qualification in that area. A relevant qualification is considered to be one that appears on the NQF of the four nations; ie A move to playwork for someone holding a level 3 Early Years or CCLD qualification.	6978-10

Qualification title	Type	Levels	Description	City & Guilds number
Safeguarding				
Safeguarding Children and Young People 	VRQ	3	Developed with the NSPCC this qualification is designed to support good practice and understanding of safeguarding within organisations and settings supporting individuals to deliver better services for children, young people and their families. As this qualification builds on basic child protection issues it is expected that individuals will have prior experience in this area.	3597
Youthwork				
Youthwork NYA Endorsed	NVQ	2-3	Designed for youth support workers helping young people aged between 11 and 25 to develop personally and socially. Endorsed by the National Youth Agency, they're aimed at people working in a range of settings with young people, both frontline workers and those with more supervisory responsibilities.	9248
Youthwork NYA Endorsed	VRQ	3	Endorsed by the National Youth Agency as the appropriate certificates for youth support workers. A wide range of units are available and they are also recognised within the JNC pay scale. Level 2 is appropriate to people 16 years and older, with level 3 to people 18 years and upwards.	9247
Social Care				
Health and Social Care: Children and Young People	NVQ/ SVQ	3-4	City & Guilds N/SVQs in Health and Social Care offer pathways at both level 3 and 4 if you're working with children and young people. They are suitable for those who work in residential care, as well as in health, youth justice and education settings.	3172/ 3175
Health and Social Care: Children and Young People, Certificate	VRQ	3	Designed to support learners who are either employed or undertaking work experience in health or social care settings. This qualification is based on the knowledge specifications from the core units of the City & Guilds N/SVQs in Health and Social Care. You would be assessed by assignments and there is no external test.	3179
Managers in Residential Child Care	NVQ	4	This qualification includes the broad range of management skills needed in care services for children and young people in a residential setting. It's designed for managers regulated by the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) in England and the Care Standards Inspectorate (CSIW) in Wales, helping them prepare for and meet the emerging regulatory requirements.	3066
Teaching and Schools				
Teaching Assistants	NVQ	2-3	Ideal for the learner who works in a supportive role in a classroom in primary, secondary, or special school. The role can involve working with a wider group of pupils or having specific responsibility for an individual.	7327
Classroom Assistants (N.Ireland)	NVQ	2-3	This is designed especially for classroom assistants in Northern Ireland and is similar to the (7327) City & Guilds Teaching Assistants	7316
Support Work in Schools	VRQ	2	Developed for support staff in schools, it covers a wide range of roles, including administrators, site managers, caretakers, midday supervisors. Its flexible structure allows learners to select units to match their role and it could help progression to further qualifications. You can gain either an award or full certificate at level 2.	7377
Specialist Leaders of Behaviour and Attendance of Children/ Young People	VRQ	3-4	This qualification is designed to equip you with the knowledge and skills needed by a specialist leader of behaviour and attendance. Learners may be employed in a range of posts within the school/setting or they may be from other teams within the Local Education Authority.	7301



Qualification title	Type	Levels	Description	City & Guilds number
Youth Justice				
Youth Justice Services	NVQ	3-4	Developed to support the work of individuals working with young offenders (or those at risk of offending) across the UK in a variety of settings. Level 3 is suitable for if you work directly with children and young people, level 4 for those with a high level of responsibility within youth justice services. Achieving these NVQs can provide a route into professional qualifications or into working with young people in other settings.	7498
Community Justice: Youth Justice	VRQ	3	This qualification is best suited to those who are involved in the youth justice sector in a voluntary or casual capacity who would like to extend their knowledge and understanding of the sector.	7497

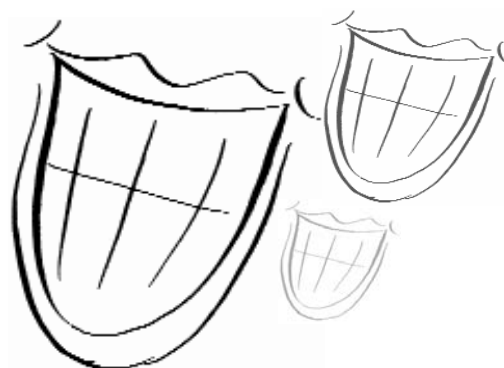
Choosing the right type of qualification

Type	Description
NVQ	National Vocational Qualification This is a qualification for people who can demonstrate at work a level of skill and knowledge for a particular type of occupation. It suits people who prefer to learn on the job.
SVQ	Scottish Vocational Qualification SVQs (Scottish Vocational Qualifications) are the Scottish equivalent of NVQs.
VRQ	Vocationally Related Qualification This is a type of qualification for learners who complete a training programme and successfully show they have knowledge and practical skills in a particular vocational subject area. This suits learners who want to cover the underlying knowledge as well as the practical skills of a subject on a taught course - for example at a college. Courses for VRQs vary in length from short entry level courses of 60 hours to level 3 courses (advanced) of 300 hours. Many of City & Guilds' VRQs are accepted as the Technical Certificate requirement of a Modern Apprenticeship.

Choosing the right level of qualification

NQF Level	Description
4	Managerial, Professional Complex technical or professional work with a substantial degree of personal autonomy and responsibility. May include responsibility for the work of others and allocation of resources
3	Advanced Application of knowledge in a broad range of work activities, most of which are complex and non-routine. May include supervision of others.
2	Intermediate Range of varied work activities, some of which will be complex or non-routine and would demand a degree of individual autonomy and responsibility.
1	Foundation Mainly routine or predictable activities

Published by City & Guilds
1 Giltspur Street
London
EC1A 9DD
T +44 (0)20 7294 800
F +44 (0)20 7294 2400
www.cityandguilds.com
enquiry@cityandguilds.com



www.cityandguilds.com/smiles

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March 2007