

PBD CERTIFICATE IN ADVANCED CHILDMINDING PRACTICE



Who is it for?

Childminders often find progression difficult to achieve. There is no higher qualification on the QCF which is specifically designed for them. Qualifications such as the City & Guilds Level 5 Diploma in Leadership require candidates to demonstrate competences in leading, inspiring or co-ordinating the work of others and are thus beyond the reach of many childminders, unless they employ staff or work as part of a childminding agency or network.

The PBD Certificate in Advanced Childminding Practice is not a recognised QCF qualification in its own right, but it is based exclusively on QCF units which form part of the City & Guilds Level 5 Diploma.

On completion, you receive a City & Guilds certificate of unit credit for each unit you achieve, as well as a PBD certificate for the whole qualification. Once achieved, the QCF units are banked and fully transferable so that, as your role or working arrangements change, you can add additional units. If and when the awarding organisations develop a specialist higher qualification for childminders, any units which are included in the specification will not need to be repeated.

What is the structure?

The Certificate is worth 33 credits, three of which are at Level 3 (the so called CYPOP unit of the Level 3 Diploma) and 30 at Level 5. The full list of units is as follows:

	Credits
■ Understand how to set up a home based childcare service	4
■ Support children's care, learning and development in the early years	8
■ Understand children and young person's development	6
■ Promote professional development	4
■ Develop the environment for children and young people	4
■ Manage finance within own area of responsibility in HSC or CYP settings	4
■ Provide information about HSC or CYP services	3
Total	33

Where will it take me?

It is assumed that you already meet the legal requirements for working as a childminder. The main value of this qualification is that it enables you to demonstrate to existing and prospective parents that you value your professional development and have achieved a higher qualification. As and when your role changes, or a specialist QCF qualification is introduced, this qualification should make the transition much easier.

How is it delivered?

You will be assigned a personal assessor – an experienced practitioner who is there to help and guide you. You will build up evidence to of what you know, and what you can do: this will be stored in a web based e-portfolio, which you and your assessor can access at any time.

How long does it take?

You will develop your knowledge through studying a mixture of printed and online resources and attending webinars: your assessor will test your knowledge by setting you a variety of tasks and will also visit you regularly in the workplace to observe your practice.

What funding is available?

There is no fixed time – it depends on how committed you are and how easily we can carry out observations. Nine months to a year is typical. There is currently no funding for individual QCF units.