

LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA IN PLAYWORK

City & Guilds qualification number 4964-03

Qualification accreditation number 501/1488/8



Who is it for?

The Level 3 Diploma in Playwork is aimed at staff working directly with children and young people in a setting whose main purpose is to provide them with opportunities for freely chosen, self-directed play.

What is the structure?

You must achieve 65 credits – 46 from 13 mandatory units and a further 19 from the optional units. The mandatory units are:

- Understand Playwork Principles
- Understand children and young people's self directed play
- Understand how to plan for and support self directed play
- Understand how to safeguard the well-being of children and young people

- Understand the organisational framework for play
- Understand how to support positive outcomes
- Understand the relationships in the play environment
- Understand health, safety and security in the play environment
- Engage in personal development in health, social care or children's and young people's settings
- Contribute to an organisational framework that reflects the needs and protects the rights of children and young people
- Develop and maintain a healthy, safe and secure play environment
- Develop and promote positive relationships in a play environment
- Plan for and support self directed play

Where will it take me?

You can take additional optional units as professional development or progress to a Level 4 Diploma. Completing the qualifications could also lead to a role as a:

- Playworker
- Childminder
- Holiday representative/centre worker/manager
- Leisure centre assistant or manager
- Play therapist
- School lunchtime supervisor
- Youth and community worker

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.

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. Your assessor will also visit you at work to carry out and record observations of your practice.

Contribute to an organisational framework that reflects the needs and protects the rights of children and young people.

How long does it take?

There is no fixed time – it depends on how committed you are and how easily we can carry out observations. 12 to 15 months is typical but, if you are doing this qualification as part of an apprenticeship, please note that there is a minimum duration of one year.

What funding is available?

If you are employed for at least 16 hours per week and are able to achieve GCSE grade C in maths and English, we should be able to deliver your diploma free, normally through an apprenticeship. If not, we can still deliver the qualification free if you are receiving state benefits or if you do not already have any qualification at Level 3 or above (which includes 2 A levels).

In other circumstances we will have to charge but we can generally access part funding. If you are 24 or over you may be eligible for a government loan which will cover the full amount and requires no repayment until your annual income reaches £21,000. You will find full details of the loans system and application process on our website.