

PBD CERTIFICATE IN ADVANCED EARLY YEARS PRACTICE



Who is it for?

The City & Guilds Level 5 Diploma in Leadership for the Children and Young People's Workforce (Early Years) is the only QCF accredited Level 5 qualification specifically designed for early years practitioners (see previous page).

Achieving the Diploma requires candidates to be in a leadership role in an early years setting. However, qualified practitioners keen to progress their career beyond Level 3 can now take a major step towards the Diploma even if they are not yet in the right job role, while getting recognition for their achievements along the way.

PBD's range of certificates in Advanced Early Years Practice are based on a selection of the same QCF units as the full Level 5 Diploma. Each certificate amounts to 35-40 credits, compared with 80-90 for the full Diploma, and is tailored to one of six specialist job roles.

On completion, you receive a City & Guilds certificate of unit credit for each unit you achieve, as well as a PBD Certificate of Advanced Practice. Once achieved, the QCF units are banked and fully transferable so that, as soon as you achieve a promotion or a new job role, it is simple to top up to the full Diploma by completing the remaining units.

What is the structure?

You can choose from a range of certificates:

- the new room leader
- the SENCO / ENCO
- the safeguarding 'designated person'
- the EYFS specialist
- the speech and language specialist
- the advanced baby practitioner

Or you can design your own certificate in consultation with us.

Where will it take me?

Although at present a Level 3 qualification is all that is legally required to manager an early years setting, evidence of higher level study and practice is increasingly valued by employers. These certificates are an important recognition of this and will therefore play a part on your professional and career development.

When you achieve promotion to a leadership role, it is simple to top up the QCF units which you have already gained so as to achieve the full Level 5 Diploma, which offers an excellent basis for gaining promotion to management and senior management roles.

For those who want it, the Level 5 Diploma is also a convenient and low cost step in the pathway to higher education and from there to an honours degree and Early Years Teacher status.

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 and will also visit you regularly in the workplace to observe your practice.

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. Six to nine months is typical.

What funding is available?

There is currently no funding for individual QCF units.