

Overview of the Level 3 Award, Certificate and Diploma in Playwork 2011

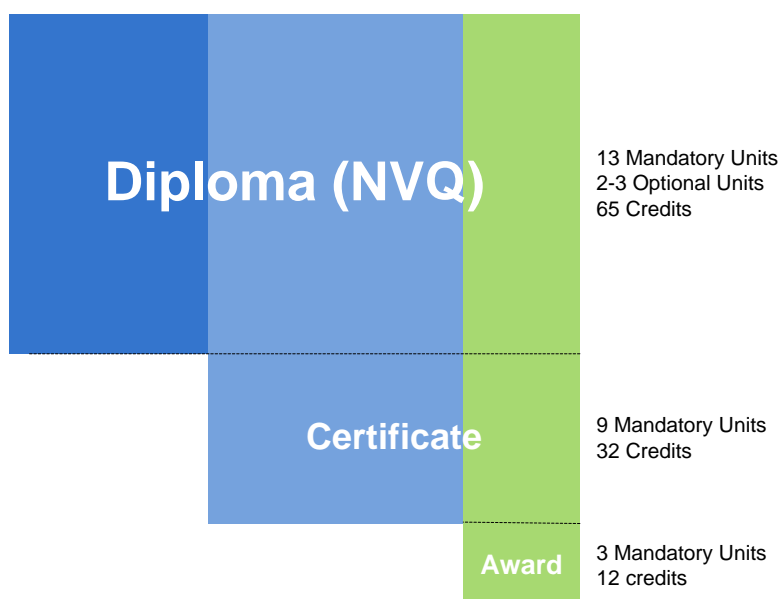
Playwork qualifications are primarily aimed at those working in play environments with children and young people aged 4-16, although this age range is not exclusive. Play environments that are attended by children aged 5 or under will need to conform to Early Years Foundation Stage Practice (EYFS) requirements.

Pre-Entry Info

Entry requirements / recommendations: Learners should be at least 18 years old and work in a real work environment. Current experience of working in play environments and having some management responsibilities will be required as learners must show understanding, knowledge and skills as well as competence in real situations. Previous experience, knowledge and abilities should demonstrate that the learner can operate at a reasonably advanced educational level and perform roles and responsibilities above assistant playworker level.

Progression: On completing this qualification, learners could work in roles such as Playworker in a holiday club, Playwork development officer, Adventure centre supervisor, Hospital playworker, Manager of any playwork provisions. Learners can also progress to a Foundation Degree.

Nesting of units for the CACHE Level 3 Award in Induction to Playwork, Certificate in Playwork and Diploma in Playwork (NVQ) Qualifications



These qualifications:

- will give learners the skills, knowledge and understanding required for playworkers at Level 3 based on the National Occupational Standards (July 2010) mapped against the Common Core.
- allow a stepped approach to learning with shared units between the Award, Certificate and Diploma. The Award and Certificate have a limited amount of practical application in a work setting
- are primarily designed for those working or wishing to work in a senior role with children and young people between 4-16 years of age in a variety of play environments
- are aimed at experienced playworkers who have a wide knowledge and understanding of children and young people and a deep appreciation of Playwork principles and practice
- support the government's wider children's workforce development strategy
- provide learners with an opportunity to gain an understanding of line management of other staff.

Level 3 Award in Induction to Playwork

The Award consists mainly of knowledge, with a limited amount of practical application in a playwork environment, and is intended to prepare learners for employment at Level 3. It does not confirm occupational competence, only that the learner is ready to enter employment as a Level 3 playworker.

This qualification provides opportunities for the learner to progress to the CACHE Level 3 Certificate in Playwork. The learner must achieve 3 mandatory units, totalling 12 credits.

- PW 3.9 - Understand Playwork Principles
- PW 3.10 - Understand children and young people's self-directed play
- CYP Core 3.3 - Understand how to safeguard the well-being of children and young people

Level 3 Certificate in Playwork

The aim of this qualification is to provide in-depth information about the role of the playworker. The knowledge, with a limited amount of practical application in a Playwork environment, is derived from the National Occupational Standards.

The Certificate is intended to prepare learners for employment at Level 3. It does not confirm occupational competence, only that the learner is ready to enter employment as a Level 3 playworker. This qualification provides opportunities for the learner to progress to the CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Playwork (NVQ), to a playwork foundation degree and into the workforce.

The learner must achieve 9 mandatory units, including the 3 Award units, totalling 32 credits. These include the 3 Award units plus:

- PW 3.11 - Understand the organisational framework for play
- CYP Core 3.7 - Understand how to support positive outcomes for children and young people
- PW 3.12 - Understand relationships in the play environment
- PW 3.13 - Understand health, safety and security in the play environment
- PW 3.14 - Understand how to plan for and support children and young people's self-directed play
- SHC 32 - Engage in personal development in health, social care or children's and young people's settings

Level 3 Diploma in Playwork (NVQ)

The aim of the Diploma (NVQ) is to confirm the learner's competence to work in a Level 3 work role in a playwork environment. It requires the learner to demonstrate the full application of skills, knowledge and understanding, based on the National Occupational Standards, over a period of time in a real work environment. This is reflected by including '(NVQ)' in the qualification title.

This qualification provides opportunities for the learner to progress to a management role in a playwork environment, to a playwork foundation degree and into the workforce.

The learner must achieve 46 credits from 13 mandatory units, including the 9 Award and Certificate units, plus a minimum of 19 credits from the optional units (usually between 2 and 3 units, see separate document):

- PW 3.15 - Contribute to an organisational framework that reflects the needs and protects the rights of children and young people
- PW 3.16 - Develop and maintain a healthy, safe and secure play environment for children and young people
- PW 3.17 - Develop and promote positive relationships in the play environment
- PW 3-18 - Plan for and support children and young people's self-directed play

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