



openawards

Open Awards Level 1 Award and Certificate in Science (RQF)

Award (603/1406/0)

Certificate (603/1407/2)

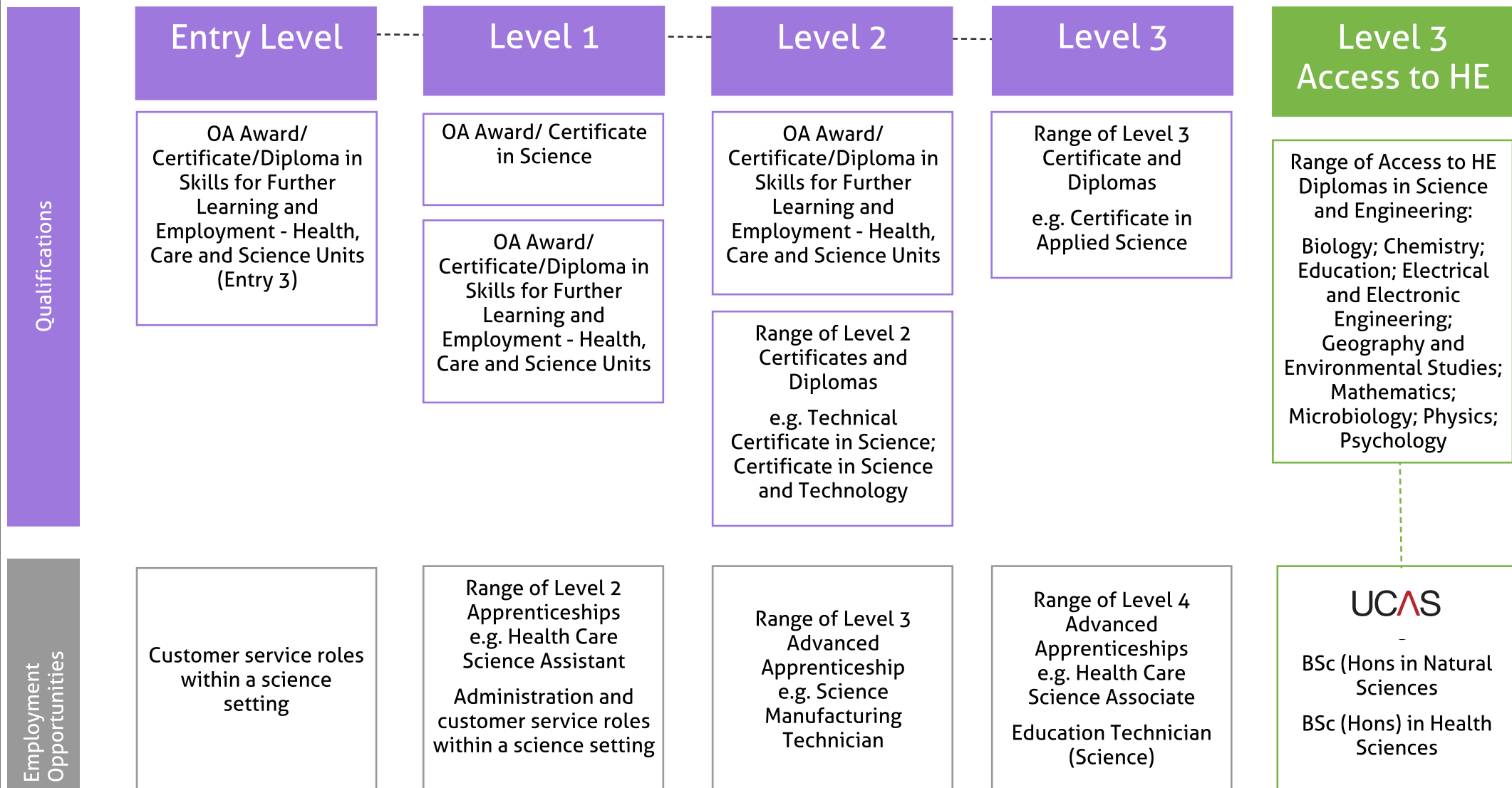


QUALIFICATION GUIDE

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Pathways to Employment Science



About the Qualification

Title	Open Awards Level 1 Award/Certificate in Science (RQF)
QAN	Award - 603/1406/0 Certificate - 603/1407/2
Sector	2.1 Science
Level	One
Funding	Please click here for more information
Pricing Information	Please click here for more information
Review Date	31/05/2022

Ofqual Purpose	B Prepare for further learning or training and/or development knowledge and/or skills in a subject area
Ofqual Sub-Purpose	B1 Prepare for further learning or training

Rules of Combination	
Award	
Credit Value of the Qualification:	8
Minimum Credits to be achieved at the Level of the Qualification:	8
Pathway Mandatory Unit Group A:	2 credits to be achieved
Generic Optional Unit Group B1 – B3: (Learner must achieve a minimum of 1 credit from at least two pathway unit groups B1, B2, B3)	6 credits to be achieved
Certificate	
Credit Value of the Qualification:	18
Minimum Credits to be achieved at the Level of the Qualification:	18
Pathway Mandatory Unit Group A:	2 credits to be achieved
Generic Optional Unit Group B1 – B3: (Learner must achieve a minimum of 1 credit from each pathway unit groups B1, B2, B3)	16 credits to be achieved

Total Qualification Time/Guided Learning	
Award	
Total Qualification Time (hours)	80
Guided Learning (hours)	69
Certificate	
Total Qualification Time (hours)	180
Guided Learning (hours)	154

Age Range and Restrictions:	
Pre -16	✓
16 – 18	✓
19+	✓
Any other restrictions specific to the qualification(s)	None

Any specified entry requirements

There are no specific entry requirements.

As there is an expectation for the learner to produce some written evidence for their portfolio, it is recommended that the learners be functioning at a minimum of level 1 for written English. There may be exceptions to this which the education provider should take into account when assessing whether a learner is suitable for the programme.

Some units contain assessment criteria that require mathematical calculations and problem solving. The education provider should take into account their learner's mathematics level and ability when assessing a learner's suitability for the programme.

Recommended Assessment Method

The recommended assessment method is a Portfolio of evidence.

Candidates must provide sufficient evidence that they have the required knowledge, skills and understanding of the assessment criteria and that it is their own work. Types of evidence could include:

- a) Observation of performance
- b) Questioning (written or oral)
- c) Practical Activities
- d) Portfolio of artwork
- e) Photographs of art projects
- f) Personal statements
- g) Project work
- h) Witness testimonies
- i) Group discussion
- j) Recognition of Prior Learning

Assessment practices must reflect [the Equality and Diversity Policy](#) of Open Awards. Reasonable adjustments may be required for individual learners to enable them to undertake assessments fairly.

Please see our [Access to Fair Assessment Policy](#), which includes our Reasonable Adjustments guidance, for applying for Access to Fair Assessment .

Purpose Statement



Open Awards Level 1 Award and Certificate in Science (RQF)

The primary purpose of this qualification is to prepare you for further learning/training and/or to develop skills in a subject area. If you have an interest in Science but are not ready to work towards a GCSE or other Level 2 Science qualification then this qualification could be appropriate for you. It has been designed to give you the transferable skills required to complete scientific investigations as well as giving you the opportunity to cover a range of scientific theories and concepts relating to Biology, Chemistry and Physics.



Who is it for?

- Those looking to take their first Science qualification
- Learners undertaking vocational learning or an apprenticeship that needs Science skills and theory to support their main programme of learning
- Individuals taking alternative routes to GCSEs wishing to develop Science skills and knowledge



What does this qualification cover?

For the Level 1 Award, you will be required to complete 10 credits and commit to approximately 100 hours of learning.

For the Level 1 Certificate, you will be required to complete 18 credits and commit to approximately 180 hours of learning.

You will be required to complete a mandatory unit in 'Science Investigations.' This unit requires you to complete a science investigation or experiment end-end including: thinking about the question; planning the experiment; outlining an hypothesis; setting the experiment up; completing the experiment; drawing conclusions; reporting their findings; and demonstrating a regard for health and safety throughout. This will support the development of transferable skills required for a role in a scientific or mathematical industry but also supports problem solving and critical thinking skills that will benefit independent living and working.

Optional units are grouped into Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The rules of combination require you to complete at least 1 from each unit group to ensure that the curriculum covers 'science' as a whole.

The optional units include: The Human Body; Plants; Chemical Reactions; Exploring our Universe; Elements and Compounds; Fuels and Pollution.



What are the Entry Requirements?

As there is an expectation for you to produce some written evidence for your portfolio, it is recommended that you be functioning at a minimum of level 1 for written English or working towards this. There may be exceptions to this and you should discuss any support needs with your tutor/teacher. Some units include mathematical calculations and problem solving. You should discuss the chosen units with your tutor/teacher before starting the programme to ensure they are appropriate for you.

There are no age restrictions for working towards this qualification and no specific prior achievements required.

What are the Progression Opportunities?

The qualification provides a mechanism for you to recognise and develop your skills in Science. Skills in this subject are highly sought after by employers.

The achievement of the qualification will prepare you for progression to the next level of learning in Science. Examples of this include, but are not exclusive to:

- **Level 2 Certificate in Science**
- **Level 2 Award in Science for Work**

At the same time, a level 1 qualification can be your passport to other types of learning, for example:

- **An Apprenticeship**

This is a programme that combines practical training in a job with study. They are available in all types of sectors, from administration to horticulture, engineering to catering. All apprentices must take either Functional Skills English at Level 2 or GCSE English as part of their studies and by achieving the Level 1 qualification you will be able to evidence that you have got the ability to do this.



What are the Assessment Methods?

You will be required to complete a portfolio of evidence to achieve this qualification. This will include a combination of both written work and evidence of practical application.



Who supports this qualification?

This qualification was developed with and supported by a range of education providers, including: Bank View High School and Crosby High.

Qualification Units

Open Awards Level 1 Award and Certificate in Science (RQF) Units

Mandatory Unit Group A

QAC Code	Unit Name	Credits	Level
A/615/6325	Science Investigation Skills	2	Level One

Biology B1

QAC Code	Unit Name	Credits	Level
A/615/6289	Ecosystems and the Environment	3	Level One
T/615/6307	Healthy Lifestyles	3	Level One
L/615/6314	Human Systems for Survival	3	Level One
K/615/6319	Plants	3	Level One
J/615/6327	Human Reproductive Systems	2	Level One
R/615/6329	The Human Body	2	Level One

Chemistry B2

QAC Code	Unit Name	Credits	Level
D/615/6284	Acids, Alkalis and pH	2	Level One
T/615/6288	Chemical Reactions	3	Level One
L/615/6295	Elements and Compounds	3	Level One
K/615/6305	Fuels and Pollution	3	Level One

B3 Physics

QAC Code	Unit Name	Credits	Level
D/506/4386	Principles of Renewable Energy	1	Level One
A/615/6292	Using Magnets and Electricity	3	Level One
H/615/6299	Energy Use	3	Level One
R/615/6301	Exploring our Universe	2	Level One
D/615/6303	Forces in Action	3	Level One
Y/615/6316	Light and Sound	3	Level One
M/615/6323	Radiation	3	Level One
R/615/6332	Wiring Electric Circuits and Components	2	Level One

Delivering this Qualification

Becoming a Centre

To deliver this qualification you must be a recognised Open Awards centre. For more information, [click here](#) or contact the team on 0151 494 2072

Already Recognised? How to Deliver

If you are already a recognised Open Awards centre, you can deliver this qualification by completing a [New Qualification Notification Form](#) via the Open Awards portal. For more information, see the [Centre Handbook](#), or contact the team on 0151 494 2072.

Registering Learners

Once you are ready to deliver this qualification, you will need to register your learners in line with the timescales below:

Short courses (15 weeks or less) within 25 working days of the course start date.

Full year long courses (over 15 weeks) within 60 working days of the course start date.

You will need to register your learners via the Open Awards portal. More information can be found in our [Centre Handbook](#).

Quality Assurance

Delivery of this qualification must be done so in accordance with Ofqual regulatory guidelines and in line with Open Awards' quality assurance processes. Please [see our website](#) for more information.

Centre Staff Requirements

It is expected that centres will have occupationally competent staff with relevant subject knowledge and/or sector experience for their role in the delivery of the units/qualifications being offered.

Centres are responsible for ensuring that their staff are occupationally competent and have access to appropriate training and support. They are also responsible for notifying Open Awards of staff changes.

Assessment

Open Awards units and qualifications have been designed around the principle that the learner will build evidence towards the achievement of the assessment criteria over a period of time.

Each learner is required to build a portfolio of evidence to demonstrate that all the assessment criteria associated with each unit has been met.

Tutors and Assessors need to ensure that all evidence presented in a portfolio is:

Valid: it should be clearly demonstrating the knowledge or skills that are set out in the assessment criteria. It should be clearly the work of the learner.

Reliable: which means that it will in general, produce the same range of responses from learners, as long as they are used in similar circumstances and with similar groups of learners.

Inclusive: so that no individual learner is excluded from the opportunity to show their achievement because of their individual background or experience.

Assessors are required to review and assess all learner evidence and must be satisfied that

learners have achieved all learning outcomes and assessment criteria relating to the unit being assessed prior to deciding the learner has completed the unit. Assessors will also ensure that the evidence produced by the learner is their own work.

Assessors retain records (e.g. Feedback Sheets, Individual Progress Record, Group Progress Record) on behalf of the centre which are made available and used by the centre's internal verifier / AIV and Open Awards Quality Reviewer / External Verifier.

Verification and Standardisation

Verification is the process by which assessment decisions are confirmed. Centres delivering this qualification have a responsibility to conduct internal verification led by a trained internal verifier.

Centre approval compliance monitoring and External verification is carried out by Open Awards Quality Reviewers/External Verifiers who will confirm that the centre is assessing to standard and ensure that there are robust quality assurance systems embedded.

Further guidance on Internal Verification and Training Support for centres can be found on [our website](#)

Centres are required to contribute to national standardisation as requested by Open Awards and also to carry out appropriate internal standardisation. Open Awards offers Standardisation events that are held throughout the year. Such events will also provide an opportunity to identify and share best practice. Up to date details of training and standardisation events can be found on [our website](#)

Internal standardisation involves ensuring that, where there is more than one tutor/assessor delivering Open Awards provision or more than one site, internally set tasks and the outcomes of internal assessment are consistent across the range of courses.

Recognition of Prior Learning and Achievement (RPL)

RPL is a method of assessment (leading to the award of credit) that considers whether a learner can demonstrate that they can meet the assessment requirements for a unit through knowledge, understanding or skills they may already possess. RPL enables recognition of achievement from a range of achievements and experiences whether at work, home and at leisure and is acceptable for accrediting a unit, units or a whole qualification. Evidence of learning must be sufficient, reliable and valid.

Credit based qualifications enable learners to avoid duplication of learning and assessment through equivalences or exemptions. It is the responsibility of the centre to inform Open Awards at registration of any exemptions and/or equivalences for which a claim may be made. These claims will be subject to external verification by the Open Awards Quality Reviewer for the centre. For more information, please see our [Recognition of Prior Learning Policy](#).

Health and Safety

Due to the practical requirements of some of the units within this qualification, centres must ensure that appropriate risk assessments are in place for both the activities and individual learners to ensure the learners and staff safety throughout the course. As part of this, centres must ensure that learners and staff have access to appropriate clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE).

Appendices and Links

Appendix Name
Glossary of Terms
Malpractice and Maladministration Policy
Sanctions Policy
Standardisation Policy
Marketing Your Open Awards Course
Centre Handbook
Recognition of Prior Learning Policy and Procedures
Plagiarism Policy
Invoicing Policy
Equality and Diversity Policy
Customer Service Statement
Complaints Policy and Procedures
Enquiries and Appeals Policy and Procedures
Access to Fair Assessment Policy
Report of Suspected Malpractice (M1 Form)

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