



openawards

Open Awards Level 3 Certificate in Forest School Programme Leadership (RQF)

Certificate 601/1727/8



QUALIFICATION GUIDE

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Version Control

February 2022	Latest version, containing new imagery, revised qualification review date and updated information for Providers.
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About the Qualification

Title	Open Awards Level 3 Certificate in Forest School Programme Leadership (RQF)
QAN	Certificate – 601/1727/8
Sector	3. Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care
Level	3
Funding	Please click here for more information
Pricing Information	Please click here for more information
Review Date	31/08/2027

Ofqual Purpose	C - Prepare for employment
Ofqual Sub-Purpose	C2 - Prepare for employment in a specific occupational area

Total Qualification Time/Guided Learning	
Certificate	
Total Qualification Time (hours)	180
Guided Learning (hours)	96

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

Any specified entry requirements
<p>This qualification is suitable for learners aged 19+.</p> <p>Please note, the minimum age to work in a Forest School Programme Leader role is 21. This is a Forest School Association and Department for Education requirement.</p> <p>There are no specific prior achievements required. However, evidence of achievement at Level 2 may be an advantage.</p>

Recommended Assessment Method Summary

Learners will be required to complete a portfolio of evidence set and marked by the education Provider and externally quality assured by Open Awards.

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) Photographs or Videos
- e) Personal Statements
- f) Project Work
- g) Witness Testimonies
- h) Group Discussion
- i) Recognition of Prior Learning

Assessment practices must reflect the Equality and Diversity Policy of Open Awards.

Qualification Units

Rules of Combination	
Certificate	
Credit Value of the Qualification	18
Minimum Credits to be achieved at the Level of the Qualification	18
Mandatory Units A	18 credits to be achieved

Mandatory Units A

Unit Reference Number	Unit Name	Credits	Level
H/616/6301	Delivery of a Forest School Programme	3	Level Three
K/616/6302	Forest School Programmes and the Woodland Environment	3	Level Three
M/616/6303	Learning and Development at a Forest School Programme	6	Level Three
T/616/6304	Planning a Forest School Programme	3	Level Three
A/616/6305	Practical Skills for a Forest School Programme	3	Level Three

Delivering this Qualification

Becoming a Provider

To deliver this qualification you must be a recognised Open Awards Provider. For more information, head to our website or contact the team on 0151 494 2072.

How to Deliver

You can deliver this qualification by completing a [New Qualification Request Form](#) via the Open Awards portal. For more information, see the Provider 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](#).

Quality Assurance and Standardisation

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.

Provider Staff Requirements

It is expected that Providers 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.

Providers 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 clearly demonstrate the knowledge or skills that are set out in the assessment criteria. It should also clearly be the work of the learner.

Reliable: 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 Provider which are made available and used by the Provider's Internal Quality Assurer and Open Awards' Quality Assurance Team.

Training and support

Open Awards offers online training and support in Delivery and Assessment and Quality Assurance. These can be accessed, free of charge from the Open Awards [e-shop](#). An everlasting coupon (PLUC code) will be issued to each Provider to gain free access to our online Provider training courses.

Internal Quality Assurance (IQA)

All Providers delivering Open Awards provision must operate rigorous internal quality assurance systems. A Provider must identify how they will internally quality assure and standardise their delivery and assessment before delivering a course.

External Quality Assurance (EQA)

Provider approval compliance monitoring and external quality assurance is carried out by the Open Awards Quality Assurance Team / External Quality Assurers who will confirm that the Provider is assessing to standard and ensure that there are robust quality assurance systems embedded.

Please note, as this is a higher-level Open Awards qualification that requires specialist external quality assurance, AIV status does not apply to this qualification.

Standardisation

Providers are required to contribute to national standardisation as requested by Open Awards. 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.

For further guidance on Quality Assurance and Standardisation, please refer to the [Provider Handbook](#).

Recognition of Prior Learning and Achievement (RPL)

RPL is a method of assessment 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. Evidence of learning must be sufficient, reliable and valid.

It is the responsibility of the Provider 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 quality assurance by the Open Awards Quality Assurance Team.

For more information, please see our Recognition of Prior Learning Policy found on the Open Awards [portal](#).

Health and Safety

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

Appendices and Links

Appendix Name
Provider Handbook
Enquiries, Complaints and Appeals Policy
Equality and Diversity Policy
Invoicing Policy
Privacy Policy

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