



openawards

Open Awards Level 2
Award in Youth Work
Principles (England)
(RQF)

Open Awards Level 2
Certificate in Youth
Work Practice
(England) (RQF)

Award 603/6032/X
Certificate 603/6033/1



QUALIFICATION GUIDE

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About the Qualification

Title	Open Awards Level 2 Award in Youth Work Principles (England) (RQF) Open Awards Level 2 Certificate in Youth Work Practice (England) (RQF)
QAN	Award – 603/6032/X Certificate – 603/6033/1
Sector	13.1 Teaching and Lecturing
Level	2
Funding	Please click here for more information
Pricing Information	Please click here for more information
Review Date	31/07/2026

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

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 formal entry requirements for these qualifications.
Centres should undertake initial assessment activities with learners to ensure this is an appropriate level of qualification to undertake.
This qualification is available to learners aged 14 years or over.

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.

Learners 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:

- Observation of performance
- Questioning (written or oral)
- Practical Activities
- Photographs or videos
- Personal statements
- Project work
- Witness testimonies
- Group discussion
- Recognition of Prior Learning

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

In addition, learners wishing to gain the Certificate must complete the unit Work-Based Practice in Youth Work. This this will be in a real work-based setting, with a minimum of 40 hrs completed and recorded.

Qualification Units

Rules of Combination	
Award	
Credit Value of the Qualification	11
Minimum Credits to be achieved at the Level of the Qualification	11
Mandatory Units A	11

Rules of Combination	
Certificate	
Credit Value of the Qualification	26
Minimum Credits to be achieved at the Level of the Qualification	26
Mandatory Units A	23
Optional Group B	3

Open Awards Level 2 Award in Youth Work Principles (England) (RQF)

Mandatory Group A

QAC Code	Unit Name	Credits	Level
Y/618/1605	Engaging and Communicating with Young People	2	Level Two
M/618/1609	Safeguarding in a youth work setting	3	Level Two
T/618/1613	Theory of Youth Work	4	Level Two
H/618/1624	Young People's Development	2	Level Two

Open Awards Level 2 Certificate in Youth Work Practice (England) (RQF)

Mandatory Group A

QAC Code	Unit Name	Credits	Level
Y/618/1605	Engaging and Communicating with Young People	2	Level Two
R/618/1893	Group Work within a Youth Work Setting	2	Level Two
K/618/1608	Reflective practice in a Youth Work Setting	2	Level Two
M/618/1609	Safeguarding in a youth work setting	3	Level Two
T/618/1613	Theory of Youth Work	4	Level Two
Y/618/1622	Work-Based Practice in Youth Work	6	Level Two
D/618/1623	Working with Behaviour that Challenges in a Youth Work Setting	2	Level Two
H/618/1624	Young People's Development	2	Level Two

Optional Group B

QAC Code	Unit Name	Credits	Level
M/618/1366	Anti-discriminatory Practice in Youth Work	3	Level Two
D/618/1606	Exploring Values, Beliefs and Spiritual Development within a Youth Work Setting	3	Level Two
H/618/1607	Key Principles and Vales for Working with Young people who Misuse Substances	3	Level Two
H/618/1610	Social Action	2	Level Two
K/618/1611	Supporting Young People with Disabilities and/or Diverse Learning Needs within a Youth Work Setting	3	Level Two
M/618/1612	Supporting Young People's Recreation and Leisure within a Youth Work Setting	3	Level Two
R/618/1621	Trauma Informed Approaches to Youth Work	3	Level Two
K/618/1625	Youth Work in Digital Spaces and Places	2	Level Two

For further support when delivering this qualification please see the [Guidance Document](#).

Delivering this Qualification

Becoming a Centre

To deliver this qualification you must be a recognised Open Awards centre. 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 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](#).

Quality Assurance and Standardisation

Delivery of this qualification must be done so in accordance with Ofqual regulatory guidelines, in line with Open Awards' quality assurance processes and in line with the National Youth Agency Assessment Strategy for Awards, Certificates and Diplomas in Youth Work Practice and Youth Work Practice (England).

Template forms and guidance documents are available via the Open Awards portal.

Centre Staff Requirements

Trainers must:

- for the delivery of *Theory of Youth Work* and *Work Based Practice* units, be a JNC Professionally Qualified Youth Work practitioner, having undertaken a recognised professional qualification in youth work as identified by NYA¹;
- for the delivery of *Youth Work Theory* and *Work Based Practice* units, have a minimum of three years practice experience;
- for the delivery of other mandatory units, as a minimum hold a Level 3 Youth Support Worker (JNC) qualification with a minimum of three years' practice experience, with field work experience in the context of youth work, community work, community education or the voluntary community sector and/or have broader relevant experience across the youth and community sector in a capacity recognised by the JNC/ETS within the last 3 years;
- the remaining units should be delivered by experienced practitioners with expertise in the subject area;

¹ A current list of all recognised JNC qualifications in England is on the NYA website www.nya.org.uk

- have a sound understanding of National Occupational Standards for Youth Work;
- have a sound understanding of the requirements for assessment within Ofqual;
- be able to evidence continued professional development, including fieldwork² activities, within the last 3 years.

Assessors must:

- for the assessment of *Theory of Youth Work* and *Work Based Practice* units, hold a recognised Youth Work (JNC) professional qualification with a minimum of three years' practice experience, with field work experience in the context of youth work, community work, community education or the voluntary community sector, and have relevant experience across the youth and community sector in a capacity recognised by the JNC/ETS within the last 3 years³;
- for qualification assessment excluding assessment of *Theory of Youth Work* and *Work Based Practice* units, hold a Level 3 Youth Support Worker (JNC) qualification with a minimum of three years' practice experience, with field work experience in the context of youth work, community work, community education or the voluntary community sector and/or have broader relevant experience across the youth and community sector in a capacity recognised by the JNC/ETS within the last 3 years;
- have a sound understanding of the National Occupational Standards for Youth Work;
- have a sound understanding of the requirements for assessment within Ofqual;
- hold or be working towards a recognised assessor qualification ** ^^ (i.e. D32/33, A1);
- be committed to, and able to evidence, further training and development.

** *Individuals that do not hold a recognised qualification will be expected to obtain one within 24 months of approval.*

^^ *Individuals that do not hold a recognised qualification must have their assessment/moderation decisions countersigned by a qualified member of staff.*

Internal Quality Assurance (IQA)

- hold a JNC Professional Youth Work qualification and three years' practice experience, with field work experience in the context of youth work, community work, community education or the voluntary community sector, and/or have broader relevant experience across the youth and community sector in a capacity recognised by the JNC/ETS within the last 3 years;
- have recent experience (within the last three years) of internal quality assurance preferably within an occupational area with relevance to youth work;
- have a sound understanding of the National Occupational Standards for Youth Work;

² This could include, for example, youth work practice, supervision of practitioners or training delivery.

³ This could include, for example, youth work practice, supervision of practitioners or training delivery

- have a sound understanding of the requirements for assessment within Ofqual;
- hold or be working towards an Internal Quality Assurance qualification (i.e. D.34, V1);
- be committed to, and able to evidence, further training and development.

External Quality Assurance (EQA)

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

Our EQA team will:

- hold a JNC professional youth work qualification or an aligned professional qualification (one that is related to children, young people and families, teaching or social work).
- have a sound understanding of the National Occupational Standards for youth work.
- have recent experience of external quality assurance.
- hold or be working towards an external quality assurance qualification.
- have a sound understanding of the requirements for assessment within Ofqual.

Please refer to the NYA/ETA [Assessment Strategy](#) document for further guidance and refer to Internal and External Quality Assurance within the Centre Handbook.

Standardisation

Centres 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.

Further guidance on Quality Assurance and Standardisation please refer to the [Centre Handbook](#)

Training and support

Open Awards offers training and support events in Delivery & Assessment and Quality Assurance. These events are held throughout the year. Such events will also provide an opportunity to identify and share best practice. Up to date details of these training events are on our [website](#).

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 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' Lead Quality Reviewer for the centre.

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

Appendices and Links

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

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