

Purpose Statement

Open Awards Level 3 Certificate in Youth Work Practice (RQF)

Open Awards Level 3 Diploma in Youth Work Practice (RQF)

The primary purpose of this suite of qualifications is to prepare you to work within the specific occupational sector of Youth Work. The qualifications are recognised by and were developed with the National Youth Agency in association with Open Awards.

Who is it for?

- Individuals who are interested in working in a youth work setting or with young people
- Individuals already working in a youth work setting or with young people who would like to recognise their skills and knowledge

What does this qualification cover?

To gain a Certificate you must achieve at least 27 credits. To do this you must achieve all units from Mandatory Group A and at least 3 credits from Optional Group B.

To gain a Diploma you must achieve at least 37 credits. To do this you must achieve all units from Mandatory Group A and at least 13 credits from Optional Group B.

The Mandatory Group includes four Level 2 units along with Level 3 units.

- Theory of Youth Work (L2)
- Safeguarding in a youth work setting (L2)
- Young People's Development (L2)
- Engaging and Communicating with Young People (L2)
- Group Work within a Youth Work Setting (L3)
- Working with Behaviour that Challenges in Youth Work Settings (L3)
- Reflective Practice in a Youth Work Setting (L3)
- Work-based Practice in Youth Work (L3)

Group B includes a choice of units designed to give you a variety of knowledge and skills around topics of supporting young people through: detached youth work; facilitating learning and development through mentoring; relationships and sexual health; refugees or seeking asylum, achieving learning potential; young people in or leaving care; transition to independence; and NEETs.

Other units cover understanding how to support young people experiencing poverty, misusing substances, LGBTQ+, supporting mental wellbeing. There are also a range of units looking at managing budgets, trips etc in the youth work sector.

What are the entry requirements?

There are no formal entry requirements for these qualifications, but you should check with your learning organisation that this is an appropriate level of qualification to undertake.

This qualification is available to learners aged 18 years or over.

What are the assessment methods?

You will be required to complete a portfolio of evidence to achieve this qualification. Types of evidence included in your portfolio could include:

- Written assignments
- Practical activities
- Reflective journals
- Questions/answers
- Worksheets
- Recorded discussions with your tutor
- Practical demonstration (for the Work-Based Practice unit this will be in a real work-based setting, with a minimum of 60 hrs completed)

What are the progression opportunities?

As these are part of the required qualifications for those wishing to work as a JNC qualified Youth Support Worker, once you have achieved this qualification you could progress onto:

- Work as a Youth Support Worker (paid/voluntary)
- Further study by progressing onto a degree level in Youth Work Practice.

Who supports this qualification?

Both qualifications are professionally endorsed by the National Youth Agency. It has been developed collaboratively between a group of awarding organisations. It has included employer engagement and reflects current policy changes. This has included public consultation, face-to-face consultation groups and 1:1 feedback with youth work qualifications deliverers.

