

Purpose Statement

ABC Level 3 Certificate in Youth Work Practice (601/5532/2)

Overview

This qualification is for delivery in England. A Welsh version of the qualification is offered by ABC Awards and more information on this qualification can be found on the ABC website. The Level 3 Certificate in Youth Work Practice prepares you to lead work with young people in a range of youth work settings. Youth work helps young people learn about themselves, others and society, through informal educational activities which combine enjoyment, challenge and learning. Youth workers work typically with young people aged between 11 and 25. Their work seeks to promote young people's personal and social development and enable them to have a voice, influence and place in their communities and society as a whole.

The Level 3 Certificate in Youth Work Practice is suitable if you need minimal support and is the qualification required for those wishing to work as a JNC¹ qualified Youth Support Worker. This is for employees who deliver operational youth work and who undertake duties on their own initiative or who carry supervisory responsibility for small projects, such as one night a week clubs. Workers with these responsibilities will receive leadership and operational guidance from professionally qualified youth workers.

Example of key duties include:

- Working directly with young people to develop their social education by providing programmes of activities, services and facilities;
- Establishing contact with and guiding young people as part of local programmes;
- Providing advice and support to local community groups and agencies;
- Assisting in the motivation, retention, developing and support of staff and volunteers;
- Contributing to service development by planning, delivering and monitoring of local provisions;
- Implementing equality and diversity policies.
- Establishing and maintaining relationships with young people and community groups;
- Maintaining quality of service provision including giving directions to other workers;
- First line management responsibility for workers and volunteers, including recruiting, developing and initial disciplining of staff;

- Initiating and monitoring developments of services, particularly with other agencies;
- Performing and ensuring the discharge of administrative duties (including budget control, records keeping and health and safety).

The Level 3 Certificate is suitable for learners who are not completing an Apprenticeship. These learners may already be in employment within the Youth Work sector but would like to gain a recognised qualification for their own progression and understanding and/or may be required to undertake a qualification in Youth Work Practice as a condition of employment whilst on the job.

Who is this qualification for?

The Level 3 Certificate is suitable for you if you wish to develop your skills for leading work with young people in a youth work setting.

It is suitable for you if you:

- need minimal support with your learning
- are not yet ready or have insufficient relevant experience and practice for study at university Higher Education level
- wish to access a Higher Education youth work programme
- have no formal qualification
- wish to return to learning
- would like to lead in the delivery of work with young people
- are aged 16 and over.

What does the qualification cover?

The qualification is made up of 27 Credits so you will need to study for about 270 hours to achieve the Certificate. Sixteen of these credits are at Level 3 while 11 are at Level 2, forming the Level 2 Award in Youth Work Practice. The Level 2 Award must be completed successfully before you can progress onto the Level 3 Certificate.

You will learn:

- Key purpose, principles and values of youth work
- Where youth work takes place
- How to safeguard young people in youth work
- How young people develop
- The role of youth work in supporting young people's development to adulthood

- Understanding rights
- Engaging and communicating with young people
- Strategies for leading effective group work
- How to work with young people to manage conflict and challenging behaviour
- How to lead work based practice under supervision
- How to reflect on your practice at an appropriate level
- Specific youth work related topics according to options selected

The Certificate is assessed by a series of tasks which you will build into a portfolio as the course progresses, making it suitable for you if you do not want to take formal examinations.

What Could This Qualification Lead To?

Will the qualification lead to employment, and if so, in which job role and at what level?

- Youth Support Worker, either part time or full time, paid or for the voluntary sector.

Will the qualification lead to further learning?

Steps on the ladder:

- Level 2 Award in Youth Work Practice (601/5530/9)
- Level 2 Certificate in Youth Work Practice (601/5531/0) (included in the Youth Work Apprenticeship Frameworks for England)
- **Level 3 Certificate in Youth Work Practice (601/5532/2)**
- Level 3 Diploma in Youth Work Practice (601/5533/4) (included in the Youth Work Apprenticeship Frameworks for England)
- Level 6 Bachelor of Honours Degree in Youth & Community Work (incorporating Level 4 Certificate in Higher Education and Level 5 Diploma in Higher Education)
- Level 6 Graduate Diploma in Youth Work (available in England only)
- Level 7 Masters Degree (incorporating Level 7 Post-Graduate Diploma in Youth & Community Work)

If there are larger and/or smaller versions of this qualification or it is available at different skills levels, why should a student take this particular one?

For those of you who achieve the ABC Level 3 Certificate in Youth Work Practice have the option to complete additional units to achieve the ABC Level 3 Diploma in Youth Work Practice. Both qualifications provide a sound preparation for further vocational training.

Who Supports The Qualification?

Industry

The Level 3 Certificate in Youth Work Practice is endorsed by the National Youth Agency and the ETS Committee England on behalf of the JNC. The award is supported by a wide range of local authority, Voluntary Youth Service organisations, Higher Education Institutes and is recognised as the industry standards qualification for Youth Work at this level.

The tutors attend regular training and best practice sessions to enable them to learn from each other and from ABC Awards to maintain high standards for your course.

Further Information

For further information on the JNC and the National Youth Agency (NYA):

<http://www.nya.org.uk/about-us/>

The Certificate is offered at a range of colleges and training centres so to find out if this qualification is offered near where you live, please contact:

<http://www.abcawards.co.uk/learners/>

Further information on the qualification can be found at:

<http://www.abcawards.co.uk/Health-and-Social-Care/Youth-and-community/Level 3 Certificate in Youth Work Practice>