



Health and Social Care Diploma: Level 2/3 learning disability pathway

What is the programme about?

The new QCF Qualifications are work related qualifications based on a person's ability to do their job in a given occupational area.

To achieve the qualification a learner has to demonstrate their skills in practice, backed up with knowledge and understanding, in order to show competence. A level 2/3 Diploma - learning disability pathway is suitable for staff working in residential/ supported living services, day services or those providing care and support in an individual's own home.

What are the entry requirements?

No formal qualifications are necessary, but learners must be working in care/support services. For access to any Government funding, learners will be required to complete an eligibility form and an initial assessment test in literacy and numeracy.

How is it taught and assessed?

The Diplomas will be delivered using a combination of classroom based and workplace learning/assessment, where evidence will be collected to build a portfolio. Learners are allocated an assessor who will observe them at work and ask questions about their practice. They will use professional discussions, reflective accounts and witness testimonies to collect evidence of a learner's competence.

How many units do I complete?

Each diploma is made up of units, each with a credit value. Learners will complete a required amount of units that add up to a minimum of 46 or 58 credits, depending on the level undertaken. These are made up from mandatory units, core units and option units from the learning disability pathway. The core units are knowledge only units and include such topics as 'Context of supporting individuals with learning disabilities'. The option units include topics such as 'Managing finance' and 'Supporting individuals to access education, training or employment'.