

NCFE CACHE Level 3 Award for Special Educational Needs Coordinators in Early Years Settings (603/3476/9)

Adaptation addendum

Qualification title(s)	NCFE CACHE Level 3 Award for Special Educational Needs Coordinators in Early Years Settings
Qualification reference number(s)	603/3476/9
Summary of changes	V1.0 - 22.02.21 The new version number is to reflect 2021 updated template layout to include further information on alternative arrangements for awarding in 2020/21. Previous version title 'AT 60334769 NCFE CACHE L3 Award Special Ed Needs Coordinators EYS'
Qualification Purpose	The Early Years Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo) qualification is suitable for a Level 3 practitioner in a private, voluntary or independent setting. All early years providers are required to have arrangements in place to identify and support children with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND) and to promote equality of opportunity for children in their care. This is an important role to ensure the best possible educational outcomes are achieved for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. The qualification is designed for those already working in a SENCo role as part of their Early Years Practitioner role, or those who are interested in doing so. This qualification is also appropriate for childminders.

Assessment adaptation

Assessment	Approach following autumn 2020 adaptations	Additional adaptations for 2020/21
	<i>What we require for this type of assessment at present, including flexibilities already introduced in autumn 2020.</i>	<i>The additional flexibilities and adaptations that will apply during 2020-21.</i>
Internal assessment: skills and knowledge	Internal assessment should continue remotely, where relevant, for all students where possible. We believe that the flexibilities which centres already have with respect to the types of evidence they may use to meet assessment criteria, are sufficient to enable	Internal assessment should continue remotely, where relevant, for all students where possible. Where internal assessment continues, all previously communicated adaptations still apply.

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	<p>most students to continue to mitigate the ongoing Covid related risks.</p> <p>We would also encourage centres to consider how they might use alternative and / or digital solutions to gather and store evidence including, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• centre-set short response or multi-choice tests• professional discussion recordings• annotated learning plans• photos and videos. <p>We appreciate that to create and capture evidence for the skills aspect of these assessments, students may need access to specialist facilities / equipment. As our existing guidance permits, to mitigate Covid related challenges in accessing facilities / equipment, we would encourage centres to consider, for example</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• using expert witness testimonies to confirm the observation of student competence over time where direct observation is not possible• using observation of simulated activity to evidence the demonstration of competence where direct observation is not possible• using digital solutions to capture evidence remotely where students can access required facilities / equipment away from the centre, but teaching staff cannot observe at that location• carefully considering how you schedule teaching, learning and assessment activity during the year, recognising that you may not be able to access specialist facilities / equipment in all weeks <p>You can find further advice and guidance on the preparation of portfolios of evidence here.</p>	<p>This qualification is in scope for alternative arrangements and if required can be awarded via an assessed grade from the centre. The minimum evidence threshold requirements are outlined in our Approach to Alternative Awarding Arrangements 2020/21.</p> <p>Adaptations should be applied in line with the 'HSC, Early Years and Childcare - Joint AO Adaptation Guidance 2021' document that can be found on our website.</p>
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	We will also continue to offer remote EQA reviews and further guidance on how to prepare for this can be found here .	
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