

Support for achievement of Early Years Educator/Practitioner qualifications

To support Centres implementing the recently communicated adaptations for Early Years Educator (EYE) and Practitioner (EYP) qualifications and to provide additional clarity, the approach to be undertaken for the knowledge, skills, external assessment and longitudinal study components (where applicable) have been outlined below. Please refer to the relevant qualification/s and individual adaptation documents on Qual Hub for further details.

Department for Education (DfE) EYE/EYP skills criteria

The DfE Early Years Educator/Practitioner criteria have been risk rated to maximise and optimise the student's opportunities within the real work environment. Mapping documents within the Adaptation documents found on Qual Hub (for EYE and EYP criteria) have been provided to guide the Assessor through the risk rated approach to inform planning and assessment. By using the risk rated approach learners will be able to focus on high risk competencies during limited placement time and use additional methods such as professional discussion before criteria is fully met.

The integrity and rigour of the qualifications is upheld through this approach and learners will be prepared for work or further study with the underpinning knowledge and skills they need to enter the workforce.

Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs)

These qualifications are licensed to practice and meet the Department for Education's Early Years Educator/ Practitioner criteria. Centres **must** ensure they use the '**Risk-rated approach to DfE EYE/EYP criteria guidance**'. This document highlights the EYE criteria contained within each unit which **must** continue to be achieved within the agreed permitted adaptations outlined in the risk-rated approach.

The most efficient way of providing sufficient evidence for a TAG is to complete all knowledge criteria and work with the risk-rated approach to show competence of skills. If it has not been possible to complete knowledge units/criteria due to the pandemic and remote working, learners can generate evidence from a variety of sources including centre devised assessments, witness statements, formative assessments, evidence from homework / classwork, etc. Please note that the risk rated approach EYE/EYP assessment criteria are not subject to a TAG. Centres must provide valid and reliable evidence in line with the risk rated approach for EYE/EYP qualifications. All external assessments are subject to a TAG.

1. Units without any EYE Criteria

- Internal assessment should continue where possible and where it is safe to do so. Where this is not possible, internally assessed units can be submitted as a Teacher Assessed Grade (TAG)
- centres should ensure there is some form of evidence. The teacher should make a judgement whether there is sufficient evidence in which to demonstrate the learner's performance at a grade in which to be able to submit a teacher assessed grade

2. Units with a combination of EYE and Non- EYE Criteria

Where teacher assessed grades are submitted for units that contain EYE/EYP criteria, centres should ensure they have achieved in full all EYE criteria as per the 'risk-rated approach' and any remaining assessment criteria, a judgment is made whether there is sufficient evidence in which to base a teacher assessed grade on. Where there is limited evidence, centres should look to fill these gaps with alternative sources of evidence i.e. centre devised assessments, witness statements, formative assessments, evidence from homework / classwork, etc.

In summary

- Where a unit contains a combination of EYE and Non-EYE criteria:
 - **Non-EYE** - Internal assessment should continue where possible and where it is safe to do so. Where this is not possible, internally assessed criteria can be submitted as a Teacher Assessed Grade (TAG), however;
 - **EYE Criteria** - any units containing knowledge and skills criteria that are mapped to specific EYE criteria, must still be demonstrated in full as per the '**Risk-rated approach to DfE EYE/EYP criteria guidance**'. This will be checked as part of our external quality assurance processes.
 - **In this case the unit can be subject to a TAG which will comprise of:**

EYE criteria fully met (TAG not permitted)	Yes	= Overall TAG
Non-EYE criteria – Internal assessment completed or submitted as a TAG	Yes	

3. Units containing only EYE criteria

- The risk rated approach assessment criteria are not subject to a TAG. Centres must provide valid and reliable evidence in line with the risk rated approach for EYE/EYP qualifications. If this is not possible learners may have to delay.

We have worked together with Ofqual, sector partners and other awarding organisations to agree common approaches to setting minimum evidence thresholds for an assessed grade from the centre for qualifications and more information can be found in the **Approach to Alternative Awarding Arrangements 2020/21**, which can be found on our website [here](#) and will be updated with further guidance by the end of March.

If Centres are unsure about how to implement the adaptations or have any questions regarding the guidance provided, Centres should contact their External Quality Assurer to discuss further.

Summary of EYE/EYP qualification requirements

1. NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Early Years Education and Care (Early Years Educator) (601/2147/6)

2. NCFE CACHE Technical Level 3 Diploma in Early Years Education and Care (Early Years Educator) (601/8438/3)

Knowledge criteria	EYE criteria	External assessment/s	Longitudinal Study
<p>All knowledge assessment criteria to be achieved as this provides the underpinning knowledge for the skills outcomes.</p> <p>If Centres are unable to achieve non-EYE knowledge criteria, * TAGs may be submitted (if required).</p>	<p>The risk-rated approach must be used to ensure all EYE criteria are met.</p>	<p>In scope for * TAG.</p> <p>Teaching and learning should continue as much as possible as all completed work will form the basis of an assessed grade from the centre.</p>	<p>Adaptation to the longitudinal study available</p>
<p>These qualifications include units that share both knowledge and skills- based criteria. Units can be claimed in full if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • evidence for EYE criteria has been provided in line with the risk-rated approach • all knowledge -based assessment criteria have been met or TAG submitted (if required) • the longitudinal study has been completed (there is an adaptation guidance to support learners to complete the study, and this can be found on the qualification page on Qual Hub) • a TAG has been submitted for the external assessment/s <p>*Further information to be shared by the end of March following Ofqual consultations</p>			

3. NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma for the Early Years Workforce (Early Years Educator) (601/2629/2)

Knowledge criteria	EYE criteria	External assessment/s	Longitudinal Study
<p>All knowledge assessment criteria to be achieved as this provides the underpinning knowledge for the skills outcomes.</p> <p>If Centres are unable to achieve non-EYE knowledge criteria, * TAGs may be submitted (if required)</p>	<p>The risk- rated approach must be used to ensure all EYE criteria are met.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Adaptation to the longitudinal study available</p>
<p>This qualification includes units that share both knowledge and skills- based criteria. Units can be claimed in full if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • evidence for EYE Criteria has been provided in line with the risk-rated approach • all knowledge -based assessment criteria have been met or TAG submitted (if required) • the longitudinal study has been completed (there is an adaptation guidance to support learners to complete the study, and this can be found on the qualification page on Qual Hub). <p>*Further information to be shared by the end of March following Ofqual consultations</p>			

4. NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education (Early Years Educator) (601/4000/8)

Knowledge criteria	EYE criteria	External assessment/s	Longitudinal Study
<p>All knowledge units to be achieved and graded as these will help to meet the sufficient evidence required for external assessment TAGs.</p> <p>If Centres are unable to achieve non-EYE knowledge criteria, * TAGs may be submitted (if required).</p>	<p>The risk- rated approach has been mapped to Professional Practice Portfolio's 1 and 2 and this must be used to ensure all EYE criteria are met.</p>	<p>In scope for * TAG.</p> <p>Teaching and learning should continue as much as possible as all completed work will form the basis of an assessed grade from the centre.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Units can be claimed in full if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> evidence for EYE Criteria has been provided in line with the risk-rated approach for Professional Practice Portfolio's 1 and 2 (Units 8 and 15) all knowledge units have been achieved and graded or TAG submitted (if required) a TAG has been submitted for the external assessment/s <p>*Further information to be shared by the end of March following Ofqual consultations</p>			

5. NCFE CACHE Technical Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education (Early Years Educator) (601/8437/1)

Knowledge criteria	EYE criteria	External assessment/s	Longitudinal Study
<p>All knowledge units to be achieved and graded as these may help to meet the sufficient evidence required for external assessment TAGs.</p> <p>If Centres are unable to achieve non-EYE knowledge criteria, * TAGs may be submitted (if required).</p>	<p>The risk- rated approach has been mapped to Unit 16 and this must be used to ensure all EYE criteria are met.</p>	<p>In scope for * TAG.</p> <p>Teaching and learning should continue as much as possible as all completed work will form the basis of an assessed grade from the centre.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Units can be claimed in full if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • evidence for EYE criteria has been provided in line with the risk-rated approach for the Professional Practice Portfolio (Unit 16) • all knowledge units have been achieved and graded or TAG submitted (if required) • a TAG has been submitted for the external assessment/s <p>*Further information to be shared by the end of March following Ofqual consultations</p>			

6. NCFE CACHE Level 2 Diploma for the Early Years Practitioner 603/3723/0

Knowledge criteria	EYP criteria	External assessment/s	Longitudinal Study
<p>All knowledge assessment criteria to be achieved as this may provide the underpinning knowledge for the skills outcomes.</p> <p>If Centres are unable to achieve non-EYE knowledge criteria, * TAGs may be submitted (if required)</p>	<p>The risk- rated approach has been mapped to the skills and this must be used to ensure all EYP criteria are met.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>This qualification includes units that share both knowledge and skills- based criteria. Units can be claimed in full if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • evidence for EYP Criteria has been provided in line with the risk-rated approach • all knowledge -based assessment criteria have been met or TAG submitted (if required). <p>*Further information to be shared by the end of March following Ofqual consultations</p>			