

Frequently asked questions - Early Years Educator (EYE) / Practitioner (EYP) qualifications

Following recent communications to inform centres that the new **‘knowledge-only’ versions of Early Years Educator and Early Years Practitioner qualifications (Table A)** were now available to support learners’ progression to HE/FE, we have produced this FAQ document to provide some useful information. This is in relation to:

- the transfer of learners
- associated fees
- clarification on completion of knowledge criteria
- further details on Unit 16 contained within NCFE CACHE Technical Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education (Knowledge only pathway).

Table A:

'Knowledge only' QRN	'Knowledge only' qualification titles
601/2147/6/KNO	NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Early Years Education and Care (Knowledge only pathway)
601/8438/3/KNO	NCFE CACHE Technical Level 3 Diploma in Early Years Education and Care (Knowledge only pathway)
601/2629/2/KNO	NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma for the Early Years Workforce (Knowledge only pathway)
601/4000/8/KNO	NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education (Knowledge only pathway)
601/8437/1/KNO	NCFE CACHE Technical Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education (Knowledge only pathway)
603/3723/0/KNO	NCFE CACHE Level 2 Diploma for the Early Years Practitioner (Knowledge only pathway)

Q: What are the options for learners completing Level 2 EYP or Level 3 EYE this year (2020/21)?

A: The options for learners include:

- completing the qualification using the 'risk rated approach' for Level 2 EYP or Level 3 EYE (please refer to the 'Adaptations' pages on Qual Hub by searching the relevant qualification). This will allow full certification and employment in ratio at Level 2 or Level 3 in early years settings as appropriate.
- delaying certification and following the risk-rated approach over the summer period. Late portal entries do not guarantee certification by published results days and learner progression must be a consideration here, for example Level 2 to Level 3, and Level 3 to HE progression as appropriate
- transferring to a knowledge-only pathway. Funding and UCAS tariff are not impacted and there is the option for 'top up' to full EYP or EYE status for learners.

Q: What will learners do to be able to 'top up'?

A: Learners will need to spend sufficient time in placement, potentially a block placement in an early years setting working through the criteria identified in the appropriate 'risk rated approach' document (found on Qual Hub on each qualification page under 'Adaptations'). The centre can use Expert Witness Testimony and triangulation or direct assessor observation for achievement of amber criteria and follow the guidance for knowledge (grey), and alternative methods, (green). Once the centre is satisfied of competence, they can claim for the full qualification.

Q: Will there be any fees involved in the 'top up' to the original qualification? If so, what are the fees and what is the process?

A: As the fees for both the original qualification and knowledge-only qualifications are the same, there's no fee to transfer down to the knowledge-only qualification or back up to the normal qualification. However, where a learner claims the certificate on the knowledge-only qualification and wishes to 'top up' back onto the original qualification at a later date, they can do so, but will only incur a transfer fee of **£25. This is charged per learner if transferred individually or if a group of learners are done at the same time, it will be a one-off fee of £25 for the whole group of learners. Therefore, it's more cost-effective to transfer learners in cohorts/groups rather than being charged the fee per each individual.**

Q: Can learners that have transferred over to the new knowledge-only version, transfer back to the original version if they want to?

A Yes, learners can do this if they do not complete their learning on the knowledge-only version, however, in this instance a transfer fee will apply. If learners have made a certificate claim on the knowledge only version and wish to then undertake the original version, a new registration fee will apply but learners will be able to RPL over all the knowledge-only content.

Q: What happens to any banked grades that have been submitted on the original qualifications?

A: The Customer Recovery Team will ensure that any banked grades that have already been submitted on the original versions are carried over to the knowledge-only versions of the qualifications as part of the transfer.

Q: Will learners be able to use the risk rated approach to ‘top up’?

A: We do not anticipate changes to the risk rated approach for these impacted learners. However we will be guided by the Department for Education (DfE) and any further reviews overtime.

Q: Is there a time limit for learners who want to ‘top up’ to the full qualification to work in ratio?

A: For learners registered on an original EYE or EYP qualification, there is no time limit set by us, although RPL policy and associated procedures may be time constrained, and attention should be given to such requirements. For example, where a policy dictates that learning that has taken place outside of the scope of the policy, requirements would need to be further strengthened to confirm competency.

Q: What needs to be completed by learners wishing to undertake the knowledge-only versions of the qualifications?

Knowledge-only QRN	Knowledge-only qualification titles	What needs to be completed?
603/3723/0/KNO	NCFE CACHE Level 2 Diploma for the Early Years Practitioner (Knowledge only pathway)	All knowledge-only criteria must be achieved. Most units are a combination of knowledge and skills and therefore will show partial completion but can be claimed in full. The certificate will identify learners as having completed the knowledge-only pathway.
601/2147/6/KNO	NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Early Years Education and Care (Knowledge only pathway)	All knowledge-only criteria must be achieved. Most units are a combination of knowledge and skills and therefore will show partial completion but can be claimed in full. The certificate will identify learners as having completed the knowledge-only pathway. Learners may use the adapted Longitudinal Study (Unit 3.15) found on Qual Hub on the qualification page under 'Adaptations' as appropriate.
601/8438/3/KNO	NCFE CACHE Technical Level 3 Diploma in Early Years Education and Care (Knowledge only pathway)	All knowledge-only criteria must be achieved. Most units are a combination of knowledge and skills and therefore will show partial completion but can be claimed in full. The certificate will identify learners as having completed the knowledge-only pathway. Learners may use the adapted Longitudinal Study (Unit 3.15) found on Qual Hub on the qualification page under 'Adaptations' as appropriate.
601/2629/2/KNO	NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma for the Early Years Workforce (Knowledge only pathway)	All knowledge-only criteria must be achieved. Most units are a combination of knowledge and skills and therefore will show partial completion but can be claimed in full. The certificate will identify learners as having completed the knowledge-only pathway. Learners may use the adapted Longitudinal Study (Unit 3.15) found on Qual Hub on the qualification page under 'Adaptations' as appropriate.
601/4000/8/KNO	NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education (Knowledge only pathway)	Unit 8 and Unit 15 knowledge criteria must be met to generate both unit grades. The competencies for both Professional Practice Portfolios do not need to be achieved.
601/8437/1/KNO	NCFE CACHE Technical Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education (Knowledge only pathway)	Learners will have completed some aspects of Unit 16 even if they have not been on placement or placement is limited. The aim of this professional practice portfolio (Unit 16, T/508/1517) is to show theoretical application through skills and competence development in Early Years settings. However, as part of the knowledge-only version of the qualification, only specific outcomes need to be achieved. Table B below contains details of the relevant criteria that need to be met and where this is linked to other units within the qualification. By

Knowledge-only QRN	Knowledge-only qualification titles	What needs to be completed?
		completing the relevant linked units, centres will be able to demonstrate their partial achievement of Unit 16 and therefore claim for this. If, at a later date, learners wish to embark on the original version of the NCFE CACHE Technical Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education (Early Years Educator) , they will need to ensure that all knowledge and skills criteria are achieved by producing evidence from real work environments (as appropriate) to the top-up route.

Table B:

T/508/1517, Unit 16, Professional Practice Portfolio Learning outcomes/Assessment criteria to be completed:	Link to knowledge unit:
17 Be able to facilitate play opportunities with children. 17.4. Explain how play opportunities should provide a balance between child-initiated and adult-led play.	Unit 5
20. Be able to provide enabling play environments. 20.1. Plan an enabling play environment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • indoors • outdoors. 	Unit 2
23 Be able to maintain accurate and coherent records in line with organisational requirements. 23.1. Explain confidentiality in relation to recordkeeping and reporting.	Unit 3
31. Be able to use reflective practice to contribute to own professional development. 31.1. Develop a Curriculum Vitae. 31.2. Review own learning needs, professional interests, and development opportunities. 31.3. Devise own Professional Development Plan in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • feedback obtained • own progress • own goals and ambition. 31.5. Explain how reflective practice leads to improved ways of working.	Unit 13