

Qualification factsheet

Qualification overview

Qualification title	NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in the Principles and Practice of Dental Nursing		
Qualification number (QN)	601/2251/1		
Total qualification time (TQT):	366	Guided learning hours (GL)	490
Entry requirements:	<p>There are additional requirements for this qualification at approval stage and for external quality assurance visits. Established centres may wish to use their own pre-existing templates. Our approval process can take as little as 2 working days. Please see the following documents for more information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualification Approval and EQA reviews • Appendices, Policies and Statements 		

About this qualification

This qualification is designed for those who are working as a trainee dental nurse and who wish to register with the General Dental Council (GDC) and qualify as a dental nurse.

This qualification covers all of the GDC learning outcomes and maps to Skills for Health's national occupational standards (NOS).

It is not suitable for the Dental Nurse Apprenticeship Standard in England. Learners wishing to take the qualification as part of the apprenticeship standard in England should select the Level 3 Diploma in the Principles and Practice of Dental Nursing (Integrated Apprenticeship).

This qualification comes with a comprehensive set of sample assessment tasks and associated marking guidance covering 100% of the knowledge outcomes within the qualification. These are provided free of charge to centres.

Qualification structure

Learners must achieve 49 credits from the 17 mandatory units.

All knowledge and skills learning outcomes and assessment criteria must be met for each unit. In addition, learners must achieve a pass, merit or distinction in the 2 external assessment tests (part 1 and part 2) covering the underpinning knowledge across units DN 12 to 16.

Please see the qualification specification for the full rules of combination and grading breakdown.

Mandatory units

F/505/8337	Contribute to health and safety in the dental environment
J/505/8338	Work within regulatory requirements in relation to the role of a Dental Nurse
L/505/8339	Reflect on and develop own practice as a Dental Nurse
J/505/8341	Prepare and maintain environments, instruments and equipment for clinical dental procedures
F/505/8340	Promote oral health for individuals
L/505/8342	Provide support during the assessment of individuals' oral health
R/505/8343	Contribute to the production of dental images
Y/505/8344	Provide support during the prevention and control of periodontal disease, caries and the restoration of cavities
D/505/8345	Provide support during the provision of fixed and removable prosthesis
H/505/8346	Provide support during non-surgical endodontic treatment
K/505/8347	Provide support during the extraction of teeth and minor oral surgery procedures
M/505/8348	Principles of infection control in the dental environment
K/505/8350	Dental anatomy and assessment of oral health
M/505/8351	Principles and techniques of dental radiography
T/505/8352	Principles of managing oral disease and dental procedures
A/505/8353	Understand ethics and professionalism in dental nursing
D/504/6101	First aid essentials

Assessment

Learners must achieve 49 credits from the 17 mandatory units. All observations must be fully achieved, and learners must achieve a pass, merit or distinction in the 2 multiple choice external assessment tests (part 1 and part 2) covering the underpinning knowledge across units DN 12 to 16.

There is no compensation between units, or between observations and unit tasks within a unit.

Placement requirements

Learners will need to be working or on practical placement to be able to show competence in both knowledge and skills.

It is recommended that a minimum of 16 hours per week be spent in a real work environment.

Progression opportunities

Learners may progress into employment as a dental nurse or to other career pathways including:

- orthodontic therapy
- dental practice management
- oral health practitioner
- dental technician
- dental hygienist
- dental therapist.



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Version 1 September 2021

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