

NCFE

CACHE

Purpose statement

**NCFE CACHE Level 2 Award in Suicide
Awareness
QN: 603/6063/X**

Overview

Statistics show that suicide accounts for 3 times more deaths than road traffic accidents in the United Kingdom,¹ And Samaritans' Suicide Statistics Report states that suicide is the biggest killer of young people aged 16–24.²

Suicide is preventable. However, stigma around suicide at a societal level is a risk factor which prevents people from seeking help.³ The stigma of talking about suicide is widespread and is an area this qualification aims to address.

This qualification has been developed in collaboration with Big Dog Little Dog (BDLD), to provide learners with a greater understanding of suicide risk factors, coping strategies and available support. The aim of this qualification is to contextualise the current landscape of suicide in the United Kingdom, increase understanding of the causes of suicide, and explore the support services available to those at suicide risk.

Who is the qualification for?

This qualification is designed to increase learners' knowledge and understanding of the context of suicide in the United Kingdom, risk factors, and support services. This qualification will appeal to learners to who are interested in the Mental Health sector, and more widely the Health and Social Care sector. It may support learners who are already studying Level 2 mental health qualifications, and those wishing to progress to qualifications in the sector in a further education setting.

What will the qualification cover?

The qualification will provide learners with an understanding of the scale of suicide in the United Kingdom, how different individuals have a range of responses to challenging situations and that individual's exhibit diverse emotions and behaviours. They will identify risk factors and ways that individuals can manage their thoughts and behaviours both positively and negatively. This qualification provides learners with an understanding of the support services available to those at suicide risk.

¹ Department for Transport, [Reported road casualties in Great Britain](#): Main results 2018 (25 July 2019) and Office for National Statistics, [Suicides in the UK: 2018 registrations](#) (3 September 2019)

² Samaritans, [Suicide statistics report](#) (December 2019)

³ Mental Health Foundation, [Suicide](#)

Knowledge and skills

The learner will understand:

- the context of suicide in the United Kingdom
- stressors and risk factors
- stress vulnerability
- the impact of coping strategies
- perspective as an indicator of suicide risk
- the importance of a conversation with an individual at suicide risk
- appropriate suicide support organisations.

This qualification would complement:

- NCFE CACHE Level 1 Award in Mental Health Awareness (501/0253/9)
- NCFE CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Awareness of Mental Health Problems (601/3438/0)
- NCFE CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Mental Health Awareness (600/6134/0)
- NCFE CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Working with People with Mental Health Needs (601/3434/3)
- NCFE CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Children and Young People's Mental Health (603/2813/7)
- NCFE CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Mental Health First Aid and Mental Health Advocacy in the Workplace (603/5148/2)

Letters of support have been provided by:

- Big Dog Little Dog (BDLD)
- Academy Transformation Trust
- Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne & Wear NHS Foundation Trust
- New College Durham
- Newcastle College
- Severn Wellness
- Top Tier Training

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