

NCFE CACHE Level 4 Certificate for the Early Years Advanced Practitioner (601/8424/3) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Size of qualification

What are the total Guided Learning Hours (GLH) and Total Qualification Time (TQT) for this qualification?

The GLH for this qualification is 151 hours.

The TQT for this qualification is 196 hours.

Entry requirements

Do learners have to complete a Level 3 qualification before commencing the Level 4 qualification?

Yes, learners must already hold a full Level 3 early years / childcare qualification before commencing the Level 4 qualification.

Can childminders do this qualification?

Childminders could take this qualification if they are working with a Level 3 qualification and are able to meet the requirements. This is not a full and relevant qualification, and so does not replace or supersede the L3 EYE qualification.

Can learners progress directly onto this from the Level 3 Early Years Educator qualification?

Learners must hold a full and relevant Level 3 qualification, (not necessarily an Early Years Educator qualification) and must be working in the early years sector. The Level 4 does not supersede the Level 3 and so the pre-requisite is that learners have gained this qualification. It is a CPD qualification and not required for ratio in this regard.

Delivery of qualification

Does the course require delivery in college/training centre, and can it be delivered online?

The delivery of the qualification is at the Centre's discretion. The qualification can be delivered online, although learners would benefit from face-to-face tutorials and/or webinars, and must have access to supportive materials. The approach must be robust and rigorous, giving all learners the opportunity to achieve.

Do you need a teaching qualification to be able to deliver the qualification as it is mainly knowledge based?

You will need to be occupationally knowledgeable to teach this qualification. A professional qualification will be required, but not necessarily an assessor qualification.

Are learners able to present their evidence via e-portfolio?

Yes e-portfolio can be used.

If we use an e-portfolio can we assume that the signatures are not needed and that the feedback can be recorded on the e-portfolio?

With an e-portfolio, signatures are not required and feedback can be recorded on the e-portfolio.

Duration of qualification

How long will it take to complete this qualification?

This qualification can usually be completed within one academic year.

Is there a maximum timescale? I know 1 academic year was mentioned, but could this be extended?

Learners are given a 3-year certification period from the point of registration. Timescales for delivery are set by the Centre's discretion, and also when you feel that learners have met all assessment requirements. One academic year, however, would probably be sufficient for this qualification.

Real Work Environment

Are there set placement hours?

There are no placement hours set for this qualification. We advise that learners must already be employed in an early years setting at Level 3 to complete this qualification, however it will then be at the Centre's discretion to determine once the learners have met all assessment requirements and therefore completed the qualification.

Can learner be on placement rather than employed?

Whilst there is no actual stipulation, the learner must be able to meet the requirements for the assessment. This is demanding and challenging and requires being in the role of a Level 3 practitioner. This will probably be very difficult to achieve as a volunteer.

If learners are working with one age range, how will they manage to meet assessment requirements?

Learners can focus their assignment on the age range that they are working with. However, it is essential that learners network, research and apply learning and understanding to the assessment criteria.

Assessment

How many times can a learner re-visit a unit if they do not pass first time?

The number of times a learner can submit will be at the discretion of the Centre, and whilst there is no stipulation from CACHE, the main thing for Centres to remember is the challenge and demand posed by this qualification and the importance of effective recruitment.

Is there a requirement for the assessor to have a level above this to deliver it?

You will require a professional qualification relevant to the sector, but not necessarily an assessor qualification. If you have approval for the Level 3 early years/childcare qualifications, you will be able to seek approval for this Level 4 qualification.

Is assessment in the workplace required for this qualification?

There is no skills-based assessment in the workplace expected by the Centre. However, it is anticipated that learners will reflect on their own practice and use this to apply skills to the knowledge they produce as evidence for each unit.

Are the themes for EYAP 5 defined by Cache, or are there learner choices around the 4 other units?

Example of themes are provided, all of which are related to Units 1-4. Learners can also negotiate ideas within a theme, with their tutor.

Can the research unit be a start for the Level 5 research paper or RPL?

Yes it can. However, it must be noted that as this is a Level 4 qualification, additional work will need to be embedded to ensure the level is achieved at Level 5.

Can EYAP 5 be linked to other units, eg the PANCo role?

Yes the Unit 5 research paper can be developed from other units, for example PANCo work.

How can I find out more about the PANCo role?

Full details about the PANCo role are available via the PANCo Programme: <https://www.panco.org.uk/>

Do we need to use the tracking record in the additional support materials?

The tracking record is not mandatory, but tracking progress is a mandatory process that must be in place and maintained.

Will learners be submitting portfolios for each unit, rather than a complete portfolio for the whole qualification?

Yes learners will be submitting portfolios at the end of each unit, and it is absolutely fine to quality assure at the end of each unit.

Support materials and resources

Will there be any learner text books?

There are no learner text books at present. However, it may be something that we will be looking into. A communication will be sent to Centres if textbooks do become available.



NCFE CACHE Level 4 Certificate for the Early Years Advanced Practitioner
(601/8424/3)

Funding

What is the maximum loan amount?

The maximum loan amount is £811.

Does the maximum loan amount cover the full cost of the course? Is this the maximum that they can claim from Student Finance?

The loan rate allocated by the Skills Funding Agency is the maximum fee you can charge the learner for delivery of the qualification. Learning providers are allowed to charge less than the maximum loan rate.

Approvals

How is course approval sought?

Please visit the NCFE website to apply for approval.