

## Checking early years qualifications.

Go to <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/early-years-qualifications-finder>

Open the excel spreadsheet <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-qualifications-achieved-in-england> this shows current or 'recent' qualifications at all levels.

From here, often when searching less is more. Try just entering the qualification title and leave out the awarding organisation.

Always note the additional information in column F

The pre-September 2014 qualifications that remain full and relevant are listed on the spreadsheet linked above

There is also a criteria for you to judge against <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-qualifications-pre-september-2014-criteria>

If you are still unsure, look at the size of it, the amount of Guided Learning Hours (GLH), Total Qualification Time (TQT) and assessed practice.

Use QualHub to cross reference CACHE quals that are full and relevant at Level 2/Level 3 and compare these to the qualification you have been asked to look at. Examples of full and relevant qualifications:

### NCFE CACHE TECHNICAL LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA IN EARLY YEARS EDUCATION AND CARE (EARLY YEARS EDUCATOR)

**Level** Level 3

**GLH** 691

**TQT** 861

### NCFE CACHE LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA FOR THE EARLY YEARS WORKFORCE (EARLY YEARS EDUCATOR)

**Level** Level 3

**GLH** 486

**TQT** 610

**Credit Value** 61

### NCFE CACHE LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA IN CHILDCARE AND EDUCATION (EARLY YEARS EDUCATOR)

**Level** Level 3

**GLH** 1071

**TQT** 1358

Note that the number of guided learning hours and total qualification time is high for all of these qualifications. If you are asked about a qualification that comprises only a couple of units or a lower number of guided learning hours, this may not be a full and relevant qualification.

### Example:

NCFE CACHE level 3 **award** in Childcare and Education

Grade B

Reference number 601/3998/5

Awarded October 2018

This is not a full and relevant qualification, the clue for this one is in the title 'Award'. An award is a very small qualification usually comprising of 1 or 2 units only.

A level 3 qualification is typically a 'Diploma' and level 2 qualification is typically a 'Certificate' – there are some variances to this, but it's a good general rule of thumb.

You can see more about this particular qualification here <https://www.qualhub.co.uk/qualification-search/qualification-detail/level-3-award-in-childcare-and-education-257>

Where you will note it is **only 2 units with 180 guided learning hours.**

If we compare this qualification to the full level 3 (DIPLOMA) <https://www.qualhub.co.uk/qualification-search/qualification-detail/nfce-cache-level-3-diploma-in-childcare-and-education-early-years-educator-69>

You can see its **15 mandatory units with 1,071 guided learning hours.**

So when you're looking at quals to see if they are large enough to be a level 3 use the above information as a guideline.

New (Post Sept 2014) quals will all have either (EYP/Early Years Practitioner) for level 2 in the title or (EYE/Early Years Educator) for level 3 in the title.