

# NVQs and SVQs in Children's Care, Learning and Development An Employer's Guide



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## An Employer's Guide

New work on occupational functional mapping identified a number of issues which indicated that employer requirements, whilst retaining many of the core functions identified in previous reviews were changing and placing additional demands on the workforce. Regulatory and legislative pressures are placing a different emphasis on workforce skills and competences. In light of the new requirements it was felt that the name Early Years was acting as a barrier to access for those parts of the workforce which needed flexible transferable skills to enable them to work with older children.

The revised awards address the requirements of the 'common core' of skills and knowledge being developed in England as well as meeting the needs of the rest of the UK.

These qualifications are especially designed for people who work with children and young people aged 0 to 16. They reflect the diverse group of people who do not work in a single age range, but move between settings catering for different needs. They are relevant to people working in day care, crèches, preschools and schools, hospitals, primary care and community based services such as SureStart programmes. They are also relevant to people working as childminders.

### What qualifications are available?

#### Level 2 NVQ/SVQ in Children's care, learning and development

This qualification is aimed at nursery assistants, crèche workers, special educational needs assistants working in a supporting role.

Learners need to complete **seven** units, the following six of which are core:

- Contribute to positive relationships
- Help to keep children safe
- Support children's development
- Use support to develop own practice in children's care learning and development
- Prepare and maintain environments to meet children's needs
- Support children's play and learning

They then choose 1 optional unit (from a choice of 4) that best match their usual work role. These units cover a wide range of subjects, including supporting the development of babies and children as well as supporting children's education and recreational needs.

#### Level 3 NVQ/SVQ in Children's care, learning and development

This qualification is aimed at childminders, day-care supervisors, SureStart workers and community nursery nurses. Learners may have some supervisory responsibilities or you might be involved in specialist tasks with some degree of responsibility or independence.

Learners need to complete **nine** units, the following five of which are core:

- Develop and promote positive relationships
- Develop and maintain a healthy, safe and secure environment for children

- Promote children's development
- Reflect on and develop practice
- Protect and promote children's rights

They then choose four optional units (from a choice of 41) that best match their usual work role. This range of options covers a wide range of work roles including working with families to enhance children and young people's education, safeguarding children from harm and mentoring colleagues in the workplace.

#### Level 4 NVQ/SVQ in Children's care, learning and development

This qualification is aimed at centre managers, senior practitioner, childminding co-ordinators, pre-school advisers. Learners will have management or supervisory responsibility of other staff and may have an overall responsibility of the services provided.

Learners need to complete **nine** units, the following four of which are core:

- Establish and develop working relationships
- Support policies, procedures and practice to safeguard children and ensure their inclusion and well-being
- Support programmes for the promotion of children's development
- Reflect on, review and develop own practice
- Co-ordinate provision for babies and children under 3 years in partnership with their families

They then choose five further optional units (from a choice of 29 units) that best match their work role. This range of options covers a wide range of work roles including safeguarding children from harm, contributing to the management of child care provision and the recruitment of staff and mentoring colleagues in the workplace.

### How is the qualification delivered?

Candidates are assessed in the workplace whilst working directly with children, young people and their families. An assessor will help them plan and gather a portfolio of evidence of their daily routines. Additionally these NVQs/SVQs allow for greater input by an identified expert witness especially in the optional units. For more details on how NVQs and SVQs work, please see An Employer's guide to NVQs, available from our website or Customer relations team.

### Do the qualifications form part of a recognised framework?

These qualifications are approved by qualifications authorities across the UK and are recognised by regulators and workforce development organisations as the benchmark for the sector.

### Are there any learning materials available?

All assessment centres and candidates are automatically supplied with the Standards and Assessment Requirements documents. These can also be purchased separately from our Publications team or downloaded from our website at [www.cityandguilds.com](http://www.cityandguilds.com)

### Key points

- Designed for people working with children and young people aged 0-16 in the full range of settings
- Recognised by workforce and service regulators across the UK
- Increased scope for the use of expert witness evidence
- Incentives to use the structures for continuing professional development
- Centre publications available in arrange of formats

Nelson Thornes publishers are producing a series 'City & Guilds Endorsed' text books to support learners. Visit their website to find out more [www.nelsonthornes.com](http://www.nelsonthornes.com)

### **Why choose City & Guilds?**

City & Guilds Community & Society sector is the foremost provider of vocational qualifications in the children's sector with dedicated development, quality assurance and quality improvement teams. These are supported by a network of specialist advisers in each of our local offices around the UK. Advisers work directly with employers and assessment centres to ensure that our qualifications meet your requirements.

### **Are there any other qualifications that may be of interest?**

You might also be interested in these NVQ/SVQs:

#### **Level 4 NVQ Registered Managers (Adults)**

#### **Level 4 SVQ Registered Manager in Health and Social Care (Adults)**

#### **Level 4 NVQ Managers in Residential Child Care**

#### **Levels 2 and 3 NVQ in Youth Work**

We also offer a range of qualifications designed to help you progress between levels:

#### **Levels 2 and 3 Certificates in Children's care, learning and development**

#### **Levels 2 and 3 Certificate in Working with People who have Learning Disabilities**

#### **Level 3 Certificate in Community Mental Health Care**

#### **Higher Professional Diploma in Learning Disability Services**

#### **Higher Professional Diploma in Health and Well-Being**

If learners are new to their work area, they might want to look at these Initial Awards:

#### **Level 2 Certificate in Contributing to the Early Years Setting**

#### **Level 2 Certificate in Mental Health Work**

### **How can I find out more?**

You can find out more by contacting your nearest City & Guilds centre. To find it, log on to our website or contact our Customer Relations team at:

#### **City & Guilds**

**1 Giltspur Street**

**London**

**EC1A 9DD**

**T +44 (0)20 7294 2800**

**F +44 (0)20 7294 2405**

**[enquiry@cityandguilds.com](mailto:enquiry@cityandguilds.com)**

**If you're asked for a scheme number, please quote 3171 for the NVQ and 3174 for the SVQ.**

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1 Giltspur Street, London EC1A 9DD Telephone 020 7294 2468

Facsimile 020 7294 2400 E-mail [enquiry@cityandguilds.com](mailto:enquiry@cityandguilds.com)

Website <http://www.cityandguilds.com>

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