

Level 4 Certificate **Professional Development (Youth Work)**



Hello!

New for 2023, the Level 4 Certificate in Professional Development (Youth Work) is the first Level 4 Youth Work qualification to be developed.

It provides continued professional development for existing Youth Workers, giving them a way to develop their skills and stand out from others in the profession.

This Ofqual-regulated qualification has been developed by the National Youth Agency in collaboration with the Education Training Standards Wales and England.

The qualification reflects the NYA's Workforce Development Strategy, in particular its aim to develop further training and resources for youth organisations and partner sectors to help youth work and allied sectors work together more effectively to benefit the young people they serve.



Qualification

This qualification is designed for youth workers and those in allied services such as social workers, police officers, emergency services, teachers, and the youth service.

The Level 4 Certificate in Professional Development (Youth Work) builds knowledge and skills for youth work specialisms, as well as develop management and leadership competency.

The qualification focuses on the importance of professional development and forging effective relationships in Youth Work.

Duration	6 months
Workshops	6 workshops delivered monthly
Minimum age	19
Pre-requisites	<p>Learners should hold a formal Level 3 qualification, either in Youth Work or within their own discipline area.</p> <p>Due to the level of this qualification, it is recommended that learners have English Skills to at least GCSE Level or Level 2 equivalent.</p>
Workplace requirements	For certain units, workplace evidence should ideally be collected in the context of full time, part time, casual or voluntary employment. For certain units, the use of simulation is permitted.
Assessment	Learners will complete a portfolio of evidence which could include a range of evidence such as assignments, projects, reflective journals, presentations, and professional discussions.

To achieve the Level 4 Certificate in Professional Development (Youth Work), you must complete one mandatory unit plus a further 2 optional units.

Mandatory Unit

Unit 1: Introduction to Professional Development (Youth Work)

This unit lays the essential groundwork needed to undertake the qualification and is comprised of 3 sections:

- The Youth Work relationship - Formation, characteristics, and function.
- Working in Partnership – Rationale, opportunities, and tensions.
- A reflection on the learner's own professional development.

Selecting Your Optional Units

To support our learners, we have grouped some the optional units that sit well together to create 3 different themes. Each theme is made of units that can help provide additional context and insight when studied together.

Full information about each unit can be viewed [here](#).

Theme 1

Optional Unit 1: Leadership and Management in Youth Work

The aim of this unit is to provide learners with an understanding of leadership and management within a Youth Work setting. The unit explores how Youth Work leaders can respond meaningfully to changing dynamics within the sector and the tensions that arise in a multi-disciplinary service setting.

Optional Unit 2: Youth Work Participation and Democracy

The aim of this unit is to develop learners understanding of the range of ways youth participation can be defined and understood, as well as its connection to young people's human rights and democracy.

Learners will explore the different forms of youth participation in civic and political life and encourage learners to consider how their own Youth Work practice can support young people's political and civic engagement.

Theme 2

Optional Unit 1: Leadership and Management in Youth Work

The aim of this unit is to provide learners with an understanding of leadership and management within a Youth Work setting. The unit explores how Youth Work leaders can respond meaningfully to changing dynamics within the sector and the tensions that arise in a multi-disciplinary service setting.

Optional Unit 2: Critical Youth Work Practice - Exploring Gendered Worlds

This unit provides learners with the opportunity to think critically and in depth about a significant aspect of young people's lives: their experience of gender. In this unit, learners will systematically study questions around gender and to develop new practice that opens up oppressive gendered assumptions for young people of all genders.

Theme 3

Optional Unit 1: Leadership and Management in Youth Work

The aim of this unit is to provide learners with an understanding of leadership and management within a Youth Work setting. The unit explores how Youth Work leaders can respond meaningfully to changing dynamics within the sector and the tensions that arise in a multi-disciplinary service setting.

Optional Unit 2: Mental Health and Wellbeing in Youth Work

The aim of this unit is to develop learners understanding of the theories, legislation and factors relating to young people's mental health and wellbeing. Learners will explore a range of approaches that can be adopted to improve the mental health and wellbeing of young people.



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