

Qualification Factsheet

Qualification overview

Qualification title	NCFE CACHE Level 4 Diploma in Early Years Montessori Pedagogy from Birth to Seven (Early Years Educator)
Qualification number (QN)	610/4160/9
Guided learning hours (GLH)	Total:630 GLH (includes 400 work/placement hours)
Total qualification time (TQT)	690
Entry requirements	<p>This qualification is designed for learners who wish to develop their expertise, skills and professional approach to become a Montessori educator, including preparing to take on a leadership role in a Montessori setting.</p> <p>It may also be useful to learners studying qualifications in early years education.</p> <p>Registration is at the discretion of the centre in accordance with equality legislation and should be made on the Portal. However, learners should be aged 18 or over to undertake this qualification.</p> <p>There are no specific prior skills/knowledge a learner must have for this qualification. However, learners may find it helpful if they have already achieved the NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Early Years Montessori Pedagogy from Birth to Seven (Early Years Educator) (610/4159/2) or a previous level 3 qualification that is full and relevant or holds transferable skills preparing learners to study at level 4.</p> <p>Centres are responsible for ensuring that all learners are capable of achieving the learning outcomes (LOs) and complying with the relevant literacy, numeracy, and health and safety requirements.</p> <p>Learners registered on this qualification should not undertake another qualification at the same level, or with the same/a similar title, as duplication of learning may affect funding eligibility.</p>

About this qualification

This qualification is designed for learners to develop an increased understanding of Montessori pedagogy in early years. It covers a number of topics exploring Montessori in a learning environment. It also provides an opportunity for learners to acquire a number of practical and technical skills.

This qualification confirms competence in an occupational role and learners are required to demonstrate the full application of knowledge and understanding over a period of time in the workplace.

This qualification will support learners who are seeking a career within the early years sector and who may also want to progress further in higher education.

This qualification includes both knowledge and skills that meet the Department for Education (DfE) early years educator (EYE) criteria in full.

Qualification structure

To be awarded this qualification, learners are required to successfully achieve all 11 mandatory units.

Mandatory units

Theme 1: theory
EYE L4 MP 1 Study skills (R/651/1353)
EYE L4 MP 2 The Montessori philosophy (T/651/1354)
EYE L4 MP 3 Principles of child development and observation in an early years Montessori learning environment (Y/651/1355)
Theme 2: early years best practice
EYE L4 MP 4 Contemporary early childhood practice in an early years Montessori learning environment (A/651/1356)
EYE L4 MP 5 Promoting children's health and wellbeing in an early years Montessori learning environment (D/651/1357)
Theme 3: Montessori curriculum
EYE L4 MP 6 Activities of everyday living in an early years Montessori learning environment (F/651/1358)
EYE L4 MP 7 Education of the senses in an early years Montessori learning environment (H/651/1359)
EYE L4 MP 8 Numeracy and arithmetic in an early years Montessori learning environment (L/651/1360)
EYE L4 MP 9 Literacy in an early years Montessori learning environment (M/651/1361)
EYE L4 MP 10 Knowledge and understanding of the world in an early years Montessori learning environment (R/651/1362)
EYE L4 MP 11 Creativity in an early years Montessori learning environment (T/651/1363)

Assessment

This qualification is internally assessed and externally quality assured.

The assessment consists of one component:

- an internally assessed portfolio of evidence, which is assessed by centre staff and externally quality assured by NCFE (internal quality assurance must still be completed by the centre as usual)

This qualification includes both knowledge and skills that meet the DfE EYE criteria in full.

The assessment methods for the skills-based criteria should include:

- direct observation of learner in work placement/employment (it is essential to include observations)
- professional discussions
- reflective accounts
- expert witness testimony (EWT) (must be accompanied by professional discussion to triangulate the evidence)
- work products, for example policies, reports and records that can be used to underpin or move a professional discussion forward

Skills-based outcomes must be achieved in a real work environment (RWE) and in accordance with assessment principles; they are typically achieved throughout the duration of the programme of study to allow for increasing confidence and competence in practice.

This qualification must be assessed in line with the assessment principles for EYE qualifications.

Placement requirements

This qualification requires learners to complete a mandatory work placement experience throughout the duration of the qualification before certification. The placement must be in an approved Montessori early years setting and be a minimum of 400 hours.

Some of the assessment criteria (AC) in this qualification must be assessed on the professional placement in an RWE. Evidence from the professional placement will contribute to the learner's portfolio of evidence.

The skills-based LOs associated with work placement experience have been included as part of guided learning hours (GLH) within each unit (where relevant). The GLH has been allocated as knowledge and work placement experience to support with delivery.

Progression opportunities

Learners who achieve this qualification could progress to the following:

- employment:
 - early years educator
 - leadership positions in early years settings
- higher education:
 - NCFE CACHE Level 5 Diploma for the Early Years Senior Practitioner (610/4163/4)
 - foundation and full degree programmes



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