

Qualification factsheet

Qualification overview

Qualification title	NCFE Level 1/2 Technical Award in Graphic Design		
Qualification number (QN)	603/7011/7		
Total qualification time (TQT):	155	Guided learning hours (GLH)	141
Entry requirements:	This qualification is designed for learners aged 14–16 in schools and colleges, but is also accessible for post-16 learners.		

About this qualification

The Level 1/2 Technical Award in Graphic Design is designed for learners who want an introduction to graphic design that includes a vocational and project-based element. The qualification will appeal to learners who wish to pursue a career in the graphic design sector or progress onto further study.

The NCFE Level 1/2 Technical Award in Graphic Design (603/7011/7) complements GCSE qualifications. It is aimed at 14 to 16 year olds studying key stage 4 (KS4) curriculum who are interested in the graphic design sector. This qualification is designed to match the rigour and challenge of GCSE study. The qualification is graded at level 1 pass, merit, distinction and level 2 pass, merit, distinction and distinction* (equivalent to GCSE grades 8.5 to 1).

This qualification is part of a suite of technical award qualifications that have been developed to meet the Department for Education's (DfE's) requirements for high-quality, rigorous qualifications that:

- have appropriate content for the learner to acquire core knowledge and practical skills
- allow the qualification to be graded
- provide synoptic assessment
- enable progression to a range of study and employment opportunities

Qualification structure

To be awarded this qualification, learners are required to successfully demonstrate the knowledge and skills to meet the requirements of all 6 content areas of this qualification.

Content areas

Content area 1: Components of graphic design
Content area 2: Work of graphic designers
Content area 3: Requirements of a graphic design brief
Content area 4: Planning, development and experimentation
Content area 5: Graphic design production
Content area 6: Design, present and promote graphic design work

Assessment

The qualification has **2** assessments externally-set by NCFE: **one** non-exam assessment and **one** written examined assessment.

Assessment breakdown		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 hour 30 minutes examined assessment 17 hours 30 minutes non-exam assessment plus 2 hours of preparation time
Non-exam assessment (NEA)	Weighting (60%)	Externally-set, internally marked and externally moderated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> synoptic project
Examined assessment (EA)	Weighting (40%)	Externally-set and externally marked: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> written exam
Total	100%	Overall qualification grades: L1P, L1M, L1D, L2P, L2M, L2D, L2D*

Progression opportunities

Depending on the grade the learner achieves in this qualification, they could progress to level 2 and level 3 qualifications and/or GCSE/A Levels.

Learners who achieve at level 1 might consider progression to level 2 qualifications post-16, such as:

- GCSE in Graphic Design and Technology
- Level 2 Certificate in Creative Media (Graphic Design)

Technical certificate qualifications provide post-16 learners with the knowledge and skills they need for skilled employment or for further technical study.

Learners who achieve at level 2 might consider progression to level 3 qualifications post-16, such as:

- Level 3 National Diploma or Extended Diploma in Art and Design Practice (Graphic Design)
- Level 3 Art Diploma or Extended Diploma in Art and Design (Graphic Design)
- A Level in Graphic Design (this will support progression to higher education)

Learners could also progress onto an apprenticeship. The understanding and skills gained through this qualification could be useful to progress onto an apprenticeship through a variety of occupations that are available within the sector; for example, artworker, creative director, advertising art director, animator, illustrator or concept artist.



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