

# Mid-flight learners

2021/2022

Additional Guidance for  
Childcare Qualifications



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## **This guidance is only applicable to learners certificating in summer 2022**

Qualification Teacher Assessed Grade (Q-TAG) mitigation is no longer applicable for learners who are due to be assessed between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022. This includes those that have topped up to larger qualifications this academic year.

Please see additional [Teacher guidance for Unit Level TAGs \(U-TAG\) for 2021/2022](#) on our new page for [Teaching, Learning and Assessment for 2021/22](#).

Work Placement guidance:

Work placement and employer engagement varies across different qualification sizes and these have been aligned with the Joint awarding body guidance as agreed with the regulators in different UK nations. However, the aim of work placement should remain as to complete full hours as stated in the specifications. Please see our [Work experience and Employer Engagement guidance for 2021\\_22](#)

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## BTEC Nationals Children's Play Learning and Development (2016 RQF)

### **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Children's Play, Learning and Development (Early Years Educator) (1080 GLH) 601/7572/2**

#### **External assessment**

To achieve the qualification, and claim certification on results day a learner will need to:

- Achieve a Pass grade or above in externally assessed units 1 and 2.
- Must complete unit 4 in 2021/22 or have a banked grade in EOL for unit 4 from January 2020 series or a UTAG from an entry marked as absent in summer 2021 Internal assessment

To achieve the qualification, and claim certification on results day a learner will need to:

- Achieve a Pass grade or above in all mandatory internally assessed units (units 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10,11) these units need to be assessed as stated in the specification and unit grades need to be submitted on EOL.
- This also applies to learners who have topped up from Extended Certificate or Foundation Diploma achieved in Summer 2021.
- Streamlined assessment applicable only to optional units – please see our Streamlined Internal Assessment 2021/2022 guide.
- Normal sampling process will be applied for 2021/22

#### **Work Placement and Skills**

- To meet the criteria of the Early Years Educator status, the learner must undertake placements in each of the age ranges listed below. This will ensure that the learner understands every aspect of children's further development:
  - from birth to one year, 11 months
  - from two years to four years, 11 months
  - from five years to seven years, 11 months.

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- The learner will need to complete the requirements of the Practical Evidence Portfolio (PEP). Please see [PEP guidance](#) where some skills can be simulated. This allows for learners to focus only on the skills which cannot be simulated during their work placement.
- The learner must complete a minimum of 100 hours with each age group.
- Centres will be required to confirm the placement hours achieved for individual learners this year.

## **Pearson BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Children's Play, Learning and Development (Early Years Educator) (720 GLH) 601/7571/0**

### **External Assessment**

To achieve the qualification, and claim certification on results day a learner will need to:

- Achieve a Pass grade or above in all externally assessed units (unit 1 and unit 2).

### **Internal Assessment**

To achieve the qualification, and claim certification on results day a learner will need to:

- Achieve a Pass grade or above in all mandatory internally assessed units (units 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11) these units need to be assessed as stated in the specification and unit grades need to be submitted on EOL- all units of this qualification are mandatory. This also applies to learners who have topped up from Extended Certificate or Foundation Diploma achieved in Summer 2021.
- Streamlined assessment applicable only to optional units – please see our Streamlined Internal Assessment 2021/2022 guide
- Normal sampling process will be applied for 2021/22

### **Work Placement and Skills**

- To meet the criteria of the Early Years Educator status, the learner must undertake placements in each of the age ranges listed below. This will ensure that the learner understands every aspect of children's further development:
  - from birth to one year, 11 months
  - from two years to four years, 11 months
  - from five years to seven years, 11 months.

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- The learner must complete a minimum of 100 hours with each age group.
- The learner will need to complete the requirements of the PEP. Please see [PEP guidance](#) where some skills can be simulated. This allows for learners to focus only on the skills which cannot be simulated during their work placement.
- Centres will be required to confirm the placement hours achieved for individual learners this year.

## **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Children's Play, Learning and Development (360 GLH) 601/7569/2 and Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Children's Play, Learning and Development (540 GLH) 601/7570/9**

### **External Assessment**

To achieve the qualification, and claim certification on results day a learner will need to:

- Achieve a N grade or above in all externally assessed units (units 1 and unit 2).

### **KEY NOTE**

- For those 'mid-flight' and 'topping up' learners where centres are putting forward an external assessments U-TAG process ([as per our published guidance](#)) for the Extended Certificate and Foundation Diploma in 2021/22, please note that those learners will be required to complete and pass all externally assessed units if topping up to the larger size (Diploma and/or Extended Diploma which hold a Licence to Practice) qualifications in 2022/23.

### **Internal Assessment**

To achieve the qualification, and claim certification on results day a learner will need to:

- For Extended Certificate Learners must record an outcome and achieve the required minimum grade points for the qualification
- For Foundation Diploma all units are mandatory (Units 3, 5, 6, 8 and 11) Learners must record an outcome and achieve the required minimum grade points for the qualification
- Unit grades need to be submitted on EOL
- Streamlined assessment applicable only to optional units – please see our [Streamlined Internal Assessment 2021/2022 guide](#)

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- Normal sampling process will be applied for 2021/22

## Work Placement and Skills

- Work placement remains the same for learners certificating in summer 2022.
- For the Foundation Diploma the work placement hours are recommended as 300 hours unless a learner is planning to top-up to and EYE qualification in 2022/23. These need to be achieved in at least one setting with children from birth to seven years 11 months.
- For the Extended Certificate the work placement hours are also recommended and not mandated unless a learner is planning to top up to an EYE qualification in 2022/23.
- Centres will be required to confirm the placement hours achieved for individual learners this year.

## BTEC Technical Children's Play Learning and Development (2016 RQF)

### **Pearson BTEC Level 2 Technical Diploma in Children's Play, Learning and Development (Early Years Practitioner) 603/0509/5**

The knowledge only pathway options are no longer available for learners certificating in summer 2022.

#### **External Assessment**

To achieve the qualification, and claim certification on results day a learner will need to:

- Achieve a Pass grade or above in all externally assessed units (units 1 and unit 2).
- On demand external assessments are available as normal.

#### **Internal Assessment**

To achieve the qualification, and claim certification on results day a learner will need to:

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- Achieve a pass grade or above in all mandatory units (unit 3 to unit 7)
- Normal sampling process will be applied for 2021/22

## Work Placement and Skills

- Achieve 280 hours as recommended
- For those learners certificating in Summer 2022, the 280 placement hours will be managed pragmatically, with the overarching consideration being that the EYP criteria, as appropriate, is met during the learner's time on the programme.
- Complete all practical based skills. Please refer to Placement Experience Portfolio ([PEP guidance](#)) to support completing the skills. Skills can be demonstrated holistically through alternative methods of assessment as suggested in the adapted
- Centres will be required to confirm the placement hours achieved for individual learners this year.

## BTEC Nationals Children's Care, Learning and Development

### **Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Award in Children's Care, Learning and Development (360 GLH) 500/1814/0**

- Achieve a Pass grade or above in all internally assessed units (units 1, 2, 3, 5 and 38) - these units need to be assessed as stated in the specification and unit grades submitted on EOL - - all units of this qualification are mandatory.
- Normal sampling process will be applied for 2021/22
- Longitudinal study can be simulated using YouTube clips/Links in the PEP/Siren Films etc.
- Work placement is not mandatory but recommended
- For learners certificating in 2022, if placement cannot be obtained the evidence for Unit 38 can be simulated.
- Centres will be required to confirm the placement hours achieved for individual learners this year.

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## **BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Children's Care, Learning and Development (720 GLH)500/1813/9 and Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Children's Care, Learning and Development (1080 GLH) 500/1812/7**

The non-licence pathway options are no longer available for learners certificating in summer 2022.

- Streamlined assessment- total GLH that can be reduced is up to a maximum of 120, but only 60 GLH of these should be from the NISCC recommended list of optional units. [See CCLD guide](#)
- Normal sampling process will be applied for 2021/22
- The Longitudinal study is a core element of the Licence to Practice for this qualification so would need to be undertaken in real time, and more appropriately on placement and/or with family member /friend.
- 70% of placement hours are to be achieved, but if 70% cannot be achieved, special considerations can be applied, provided skills are all met using triangulation of evidence.
- Centres will be required to confirm the placement hours achieved for individual learners this year.

- Observations, activities, and daily care routine write ups can be reduced to three age groups: 0-3 years, 3-5 years, 5-8 years instead of 0-1 year 1-3 years 3-5 years 5-8 years. Therefore, observations, activities and care routine write ups can also be reduced to 15 observations, 15 activities and 12 care routine writeups.
- Triangulation of evidence for skills could include:
  - Significant Expert Witness Testimony (EWT) from the employer which details that the learner's competence has been consistently displayed over time, across all units within the qualification and is sufficient to meet the specified assessment criteria. Please note that a single EWT will not be accepted as enough evidence.
  - Substantial and holistic learner reflection across all units within the qualification, clearly evidencing the integration of knowledge into practice. Reflections must be linked solely to the learner's work experience/placement; reflection based on simulation, case studies or scenario-based reflection will not be accepted.
  - Significant professional discussions between the learner, assessor, and Expert Witness.

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These will occur over time and provide opportunity for the:

- Learner to expand on submitted reflections for the purposes of VARCS.
- The EWT to enrich and validate the learner's reflections.
- The assessor to gather evidence relating to outstanding areas of competency, particularly in relation to the integration of knowledge into practice, and/or aspects of practice that occur infrequently.