

Level
2

APPROVAL CRITERIA

Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts

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This is a **Regulatory Document** under **Condition B7** of the *Standard Conditions of Recognition (March 2017)*¹: *Compliance with Regulatory Documents*.

¹ <http://qualificationswales.org/publications/standard-conditions-of-recognition-march-2017/?lang=en>

Introduction

This document sets out the approval criteria for the Level 2 Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts qualification. These have been developed through stakeholder engagement, which included focus groups and online surveys. These approval criteria include the requirements that an awarding body must meet when developing the specification and assessment materials for the Level 2 Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts qualification.

This qualification should be designed to be delivered by a range of learning providers including further education, for learners who are 16 or over.

Where appropriate, this qualification should allow learners to develop transferable skills, including communication, literacy, digital competence and numeracy.

The approval criteria in this document will come into effect from March 2019 and will be reviewed in 2022.

In March 2017, Qualifications Wales published a determination to restrict a new suite of qualifications in Health and Social Care and Childcare² for teaching on publicly-funded programmes of learning in Wales. This suite includes the Level 2 Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts qualification. This qualification should be designed to support progression onto further and higher level study or training.

All of the qualifications in the suite will be restricted to just one form per qualification for a period of five years from either 1 September 2019 or 1 September 2020. This means that only one awarding body may award each qualification. Following a fair and transparent procurement process that took place between January 2017 and August 2017, Qualifications Wales has contracted with a consortium of City & Guilds of London Institute and WJEC to jointly develop and deliver all of the qualifications in the suite.

Qualifications Wales will only approve a qualification that meets all of the requirements set out in this document together with those set out in the *Standard Conditions of Recognition*³. In developing qualifications to meet these requirements awarding bodies must have regard to *Fair Access by Design*⁴. The commissioned awarding body must also meet all of the requirements set out in the *concession*

² <http://qualificationswales.org/media/2535/230517-determination-to-restrict-hsc-final-e.pdf>

³ <http://qualifications.wales/english/our-work/regulating-awarding-bodies/monitoring-awarding-bodies/>

⁴ <http://gov.wales/docs/dcells/publications/150727-fair-access-by-design-en.pdf>

contract awarded during the qualification development, approval, implementation and delivery stages.

Where the requirements of the Subject Approval Criteria set out in this document differ from those prescribed in the *Standard Conditions of Recognition*, the requirements in this document will take precedence.

Qualification structure

1. The qualification title appearing on certificates must be:

Level 2 Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts.

2. The Level 2 Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts specification must
 - 2.1. offer learners the certification of a qualification of 200 Guided Learning Hours (GLH) and will need to be defined in terms of Total Qualification Time (TQT), and credit;
 - 2.2. comprise mandatory units only (Group A, see Appendix A).
3. The design of Level 2 Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts must ensure that the subject aims and objectives are reflected in the assessments to enable learners to demonstrate their knowledge, skills and understanding.
4. Level 2 Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts must include mandatory sector engagement for a minimum of ten days, to include a mandatory work placement. The specification must provide details of the minimum requirements for sector engagement activities. Centres must be encouraged to ensure that, where possible, learners experience a minimum of two settings during the sector engagement.
5. The Level 2 Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts specification must include the following statement:

The knowledge, understanding and skills a learner is required to achieve within this qualification build on the content of the Health and Social Care: Core qualification. It is strongly recommended that a learner undertaking this qualification has completed or is currently undertaking the Health and Social Care: Core qualification. Please note that it is a requirement of Social Care Wales that an individual working within the Social Care sector will need the Health and Social Care: Core qualification to work within specific job roles. For more

information on requirements to work within the Social Care sector, please refer to Social Care Wales' website.

Subject aims and objectives

6. The Level 2 Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts must enable learners to develop and demonstrate their knowledge, skills and understanding within the context of health and social care services. In particular, learners should be able to demonstrate that they:
 - 6.1. understand the core principles and values which underpin health and social care practice and apply them to a range of health and social care contexts;
 - 6.2. understand the ways in which individuals' unique needs can be identified and responded to;
 - 6.3. reflect on how person-centred approaches are adopted in health and social care contexts;
 - 6.4. understand job roles and functions within the health and social care sectors;
 - 6.5. understand the ways in which different settings, agencies and services work together to provide care for individuals;
 - 6.6. use literacy, numeracy and digital competency skills as appropriate within their study.

Subject content

7. The content of the Level 2 Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts specification must reflect the subject aims and objectives.
8. The Level 2 Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts specification must include all content specified in Appendix A.

Scheme of assessment

9. Level 2 Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts will be assessed through 60% internal assessment and 40% external assessment.

10. The internal assessment will:
 - 10.1. consist of a task or tasks that are determined by a brief which is pre-released at the beginning of the course of study;
 - 10.2. include the assessment of the knowledge and understanding a learner has gained through the mandatory sector engagement (minimum of ten days);
 - 10.3. be of comparable demand for all learners, irrespective of the assessment undertaken;
 - 10.4. specify the type and amount of evidence to be collected for assessment purposes.
11. The external assessment will consist of an examination.
12. Question types, where appropriate, must provide learners with the opportunity to provide a mixture of short and extended responses.
13. Marking criteria must indicate how each assessment question or task relates to the assessment objectives.
14. The Level 2 Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts specification must include details of assessment opportunities, including re-sits.

Assessment objectives

15. The assessment of the knowledge, skills and understanding required in the specification must target the following assessment objectives in line with the indicated weightings:

Objective	Requirements	Weightings
AO1	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of health and social care principles and contexts.	Minimum 35%
AO2	Apply knowledge and understanding of health and social care principles and contexts.	Minimum 35%
AO3	Analyse and reflect on aspects of health and social care principles and contexts.	Minimum 15%

Rationale required: on submitting the specification for approval, the awarding body will be required to provide a rationale as to how the final weightings of the assessment

objectives have been determined, including whether they will be fixed across the lifetime of the qualification or vary by series.

Outcomes

16. Learners who successfully complete all required assessments will be certificated. Learners' attainment will be differentiated through Pass, Merit and Distinction.

Submitting qualifications for approval

17. When submitting a qualification to Qualifications Wales for approval, the awarding body must provide:
 - 17.1. a specification document;
 - 17.2. sample assessment materials;
 - 17.3. an explanatory document (rationale document) outlining the rationale for the key design features of the proposed qualification and their alignment to findings of *The Sector Review of Qualifications and the Qualification System in Health and Social Care, including childcare and play work*⁵.

Rationale requirements

18. The purpose of the rationale document is to support the qualification review and approval process and is not intended for publication.
19. The rationale document must include an explanation for:
 - 19.1. the qualification structure, explaining the reasons for the way in which the content has been structured;
 - 19.2. the approach to how tasks are developed and refreshed over time;
 - 19.3. the assessment structure including, where appropriate, the number, weighting, mark allocation and duration of assessments;

⁵ <http://qualifications.wales/english/qualifications/vocational-qualifications/sector-reviews/health-social-care-and-childcare/>

- 19.4. the interpretation of the assessment objectives or learning outcomes where relevant, and how the spread of assessment objectives or learning outcomes across and within the assessments was determined;
- 19.5. the design and application of marking criteria;
- 19.6. how the qualification reflects a Welsh context;
- 19.7. the minimum requirements for sector engagement activities;
- 19.8. the process for setting and maintaining standards in the qualification;
- 19.9. the process used to award the qualification, including a rationale for the proposed grade boundaries at assessment and qualification level.

Operational requirements

20. The specification must specify the knowledge and competence requirements (both subject and assessment/quality assurance) for assessors, internal quality assurers and external quality assurers.
21. The qualification specification must include explicit details of operational requirements, including:
 - 21.1. entries;
 - 21.2. quality assurance;
 - 21.3. external assessment processes.

**Further
information**

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Appendix A – Level 2 Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts

The Level 2 Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts specification must include the following content. This makes 100% of the total content of the qualification.

Topic area	Sub-topic area
1. Promoting Health and well-being throughout the life stages	1.1. Key physical, intellectual, emotional and social aspects that affects growth and development across the lifespan of individuals 1.2. The influence of life factors, lifestyle choices and life events on growth, health and well-being 1.3. The factors that shape self-concept 1.4. The role and purpose of promoting health and well-being
2. Health and Social Care to support outcome focused provision for person centred care	2.1. The range of individual needs across the life span 2.2. The variety of opportunities and challenges both locally and across Wales 2.3. The roles and responsibilities of workers in the health social care sector 2.4. Legislation and principles of care and support