

Qualification aim

This qualification is appropriate for specialist learning support practitioners who work with Deaf learners in for example an FE College, adult and community learning centre or learning provider and for those supporting work based training such as within voluntary, community, private and public organisations.

The aim of the certificate is to provide those who are learning support practitioners - Communication Support Workers (CSWs) - with the underpinning knowledge, understanding and skills in order to effectively fulfil the specialist learning support practitioner role.

Qualification objectives

At the end of the qualification, learners will be able:

- to provide a sound educational basis for supporting deaf learners in a wide range of learning institutions with in the Lifelong Learning Sector
- to develop the necessary knowledge, skills and attributes for supporting deaf learners in a wide range of learning institutions with in the Lifelong Learning Sector
- to promote personal and professional development
- to promote evaluation and reflection on personal and communication support practice

Qualification structure

To achieve the full Level 3 Certificate in Communication Support for Deaf Learners, learners are required to achieve all eight units.

The Level 3 Certificate in Communication Support for Deaf Learners consists of mandatory credit only. The introductory unit, *Preparing to Support Learning*, should be delivered first. This could be combined with additional units to provide a particular focus for the introductory part of a programme. A holistic approach may be taken by centres with the remaining mandatory units.

Unit code	QAN unit number	Unit title	Assessment
K311	L/504/0066	Preparing to Support Learning	Portfolio of evidence
K312	H/504/2986	Learning Support in Lifelong Learning Contexts: Communication Support for Deaf Learners	Portfolio of evidence
K313	K/504/2987	Principles of Learning Support: Communication Support for Deaf People	Portfolio of evidence
K314	M/504/2988	Supporting Learning: Communication Support for Deaf Learners	Portfolio of evidence
K315	K/601/9364	Reflective Journal	Production of Journal
K316	Y/601/9361	Supporting Bi-lingual Access	Portfolio of evidence
K317	D/601/9362	Clear Speech and Notetaking	Portfolio of evidence
K318	H/601/9363	Accessible English for Deaf and Deafblind People	Written paper

Suggested duration

The following table shows the recommended learning hours required to achieve this qualification.

Unit code	Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	Additional study hours	Total learning hours	Credit value
K311	30	30	60	6
K312	30	20	50	6
K313	30	20	50	6
K314	30	20	50	6
K315	10	20	30	3
K316	20	10	30	3
K317	20	10	30	3
K318	20	10	30	3
Total	190	140	330	36

Essential requirements

A minimum of Level 2 BSL is essential for candidates studying this certificate. Level 3 BSL is desirable. Candidates should also have English at a minimum of level 2. Candidates without Level 3 BSL at entry are strongly recommended to achieve BSL level 3 either whilst training or shortly after achieving the certificate. Those who work/intend to work in establishments where learners using BSL are the norm should gain BSL at level 3 alongside this qualification. This qualification is listed as appropriate for learners 19+.

It is recommended that all candidates undertake an initial assessment prior to commencement of the course. This should include an assessment of their BSL skills, and their individual needs with respect to the minimum core of language, literacy, numeracy and ICT. The minimum core is not required as part of the qualification, but to work as a Learning Support Practitioner (CSW), learners will need proof that they have met the standards.