

Prior attainment levels

The information shown in the sections below provides a guide to assess your overall attainment level of qualifications you currently hold.

The levels shown do not necessarily coincide with the level at which individual qualifications are set. *For example, GCSEs are set at level 1 and 2, but the level of overall attainment achieved is dependent on the grade achieved for each GCSE. Where you have achieved a grade D-G this would be considered a level 1.*

Prior attainment level descriptors	Qualification equivalent (incorporating NQF and QCF and RQF)
Level 1 (code 1)	GCSE/O Level (at grades D-G or fewer than 5 at grades A-C) CSE below grade 1 1 AS Level (for AS qualifications regulated before 1 September 2015) QCF Diploma Level 1 QCF Certificate Level 1 QCF Award Level 1 Foundation 14-19 Diploma Functional Skills Certificate in Adult Literacy, Numeracy, ESOL at Level 1 Level 1 Key Skills Level 1 Principal Learning Introductory Diploma Introductory Certificate GNVQ Foundation NVQ Level 1 RQF qualifications at Level 1 Technical Awards in the Key Stage 4 Performance Tables
Full Level 2 (code 2)	GCSE/O Level (5 or more GCSEs grades A*-C) 2 or 3 AS Levels (for AS qualifications regulated before 1 September 2015) CSE Grade 1 (5 or more) 1 A Level Higher 14-19 Diploma QCF Diploma level 2 QCF Certificate level 2 at 13 or 14 credits undertaken before 2014 to 2015 Level 2 Principal Learning NVQ level 2 GNVQ Intermediate Technical Certificates in the 16-19 Performance Tables QCF Certificate level 2 at 15 credits and above From 1 August 2015 vocational qualifications of 150 GLH or more

Prior attainment level descriptors	Qualification equivalent (incorporating NQF and QCF and RQF)
Full Level 3 (code 3)	A Levels (2 or more advanced level passes) 4 or more AS Levels (for AS qualifications regulated before 1 September 2015) QCF Diploma Level 3 QAA Access to HE Advanced 14-19 Diploma GNVQ Advanced NVQ level 3 AVCE double award Tech Levels which are in the 16-19 Performance Tables
	Applied Generals which are in the 16-19 Performance Tables (from 1 August 2015)
	QCF Certificate at Level 3 which is 30 to 36 credits From 1 August 2015 vocational qualifications of 300 GLH or more

Prior attainment level descriptors	Current Ofqual Regulated Framework (incorporating QCF and RQF)	National Qualification framework (used in ILR prior to 2013/14, valid for continuing learners only)	Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
Level 4 (code 10)	QCF Award Level 4 QCF Certificate Level 4 QCF Diploma Level 4 HNC RQF qualifications Level 4	Level 4 (code 4) NVQ level 4 Level 4 Professional Certificate Level 4 Professional Diploma	Certificates of higher education
Level 5 (code 11)	QCF Award Level 5 QCF Certificate Level 5 QCF Diploma Level 5 HND RQF qualifications Level 5		Foundation degrees
Level 6 (code 12)	QCF Award Level 6 QCF Certificate Level 6 QCF Diploma Level 6 RQF qualifications Level 6		Bachelor's degrees; graduate certificates and diplomas
Level 7+ (code 13)	QCF Award Level 7 QCF Certificate Level 7 QCF Diploma Level 7 RQF qualifications Level 7	Level 5+ (code 5) Continuing education diploma; NVQ level 5 Level 5 Professional Certificate	Doctorates
	QCF Award Level 8 QCF Certificate Level 8 QCF Diploma Level 8 RQF qualifications Level 8		Masters degrees; postgraduate certificates and diplomas
Entry level (code 7, 9)	QCF Award at Entry level QCF Certificate at Entry level Certificate in Adult Literacy, Numeracy, ESOL at Entry level RQF qualifications at Entry Level		