



FAO: Staff in UK Universities responsible for admissions to degree programmes in health and social care, nursing, childcare, and other related areas.

To Whom It May Concern,

Qualifications Wales regulates awarding bodies offering qualifications in Wales. We are the Welsh Government sponsored independent body focused on publicly funded qualifications, including GCSEs, A levels and vocational qualifications.

In August 2017 we commissioned City & Guilds London Institute and WJEC to develop a new suite of Health and Social Care, and Childcare qualifications for Wales which addressed the findings of [our review](#) of qualifications in these sectors. The qualifications have been designed to be delivered within schools, further education colleges and work-based learning at levels two to five of the Credit and Qualification Framework for Wales.

We have worked closely with key stakeholders such as Social Care Wales and Health Education Improvement Wales to ensure that the qualifications meet the needs of the respective sectors and support learner progression to further and higher study as well as employment. Phase one of these qualifications were introduced into the qualification system in Wales in September 2019 with the second phase introduced in September 2020. These qualifications will be the only qualifications within these sector areas which will be eligible for public funding on school, college, and apprenticeship programmes in Wales. As such, the new level three qualifications we have commissioned and approved will be the main qualifications learners will be using to apply for entry onto degree programmes in health, care, and childcare related courses at universities from 2021 onwards.

The level three qualifications in the suite include:

- Level 3 Advanced GCE and Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Health and Social Care, and Childcare.
- Level 3 Certificate and Diploma in Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts; and
- Level 3 Children's Care, Play, Learning and Development: Practice and Theory.

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These qualifications are replacing a range of current level three qualifications such as Health and Social Care Diplomas and Diplomas in Children's Care, Learning and Development.

As well as being developed in collaboration with a variety of stakeholders, these new qualifications have been scrutinised through Qualifications Wales' robust approval process. We are confident that the qualification content is fit-for-purpose and relevant, and that the assessments are valid and reliable.

In the process of development, we have also worked with representatives of higher education institutes here in Wales and with UCAS to ensure that appropriate UCAS tariff points have been allocated. I attach a breakdown of these points in [Appendix A](#) for your reference.

I trust that you and your institution will have assurance that learners who complete these qualifications will be well equipped with the knowledge, understanding and skills which are required for success on your respective programmes.

For more information about each of the qualifications, City and Guilds London Institute and WJEC have created a dedicated bilingual website which can be found at the link below:

<https://www.healthandcarelearning.wales/>

If you have any queries or require further assistance regarding these new qualifications, please do not hesitate to contact Dan Tromans, Senior Qualifications Manager at Qualifications Wales (daniel.tromans@qualificationswales.org). Dan will be happy to discuss any questions or concerns you may have.

Yours faithfully



Philip Blaker
Chief Executive Officer

Appendix A

Qualification	Size GLH	Grade	Tariff points
Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Health and Social Care, and Childcare (Grades A-E)	180	A	20
		B	16
		C	12
		D	10
		E	6
Level 3 Advanced GCE in Health and Social Care, and Childcare (Grades A*-E)	360	A*	56
		A	48
		B	40
		C	32
		D	24
		E	16
Level 3 Certificate in Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts (Grades A*-E)	360	A*	56
		A	48
		B	40
		C	32
		D	24
		E	16
Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts (Grades A*A*-EE)	720	A*A*	112
		AA	96
		BB	80
		CC	64
		DD	48
		EE	32
Level 3 Children's Care, Play, Learning and Development: Practice and Theory	720	D*	112
		D	96
		M	64
		P	32