

A guide to Level 2 Design Support

What are the aims of the qualification?

The framework is intended to be applicable to the design industry and all other industries where designers are employed in non-design businesses. For example, the framework is sufficiently flexible to be used in all aspects of graphic and multimedia design in all media industries; interior and other spatial design in construction-related industries, including kitchen and bathroom design; fashion and textile design in the clothing and fabric manufacturing industries; product design in all kinds of manufacturing industries, from packaging to furniture and other designer-makers. The qualification is a Level 2 NVQ in Design Support and a BTEC First Certificate in Art & Design as the Technical Certificate.

What are the units of the 'Main' qualification?

Mandatory Units

- Unit 1 Research information and ideas using a range of techniques
- Unit 2 Develop and communicate design ideas
- Unit 3 Develop design responses to meet agreed requirements
- Unit 4 Contribute to producing detailed design work
- Unit 5 Develop effective working relationships

Optional Units (Choose 2)

- Unit 1 Contribute to realising design
- Unit 2 Contribute to realising final design product
- Unit 3 Undertake freelance work
- Unit 4 Contribute to selling and promoting designs and design services

What are the units of the 'Technical' qualification?

Mandatory Units

- Unit 1 2D and 3D Visual Communication
- Unit 2 Contextual references in Art & Design

Optional Units

Pick one of the following briefs:

- Graphic Design
- Photography
- Fashion Design
- 3D Design
- Textiles
- Interactive Media
- Visual Arts
- 3D Design Crafts

How does it work?

An apprenticeship is a worked based training programme which comprises of a suite of qualifications. Apprenticeships have been specially designed by industry for industry in order to address the employer needs. There are three main elements that make up the apprenticeship framework. Modules within this qualification can be selected to ensure that the Apprenticeship qualifications are relevant to the needs of the business.

How is the apprenticeship delivered?

The delivery of the Apprenticeship can be flexible to fit the needs of your business. Much of the training will be undertaken 'on the job' and the apprentice will be assessed within the workplace. The tuition element can be delivered at Plymouth College of Art or on the premises depending on requirements.

How long will it take?

Each candidate will be assessed on an individual basis and a completion date agreed with an action plan for the assessment process. The length of time from start to completion will vary for each individual depending on their work load and ability to evidence their portfolio of work. It is envisaged that these qualifications would be delivered on a rolling basis and will take between 15 to 24 months to complete.

What support is given?

The learner will have a review meeting every 12 weeks to monitor progress. If the learner is experiencing difficulties in completing the qualification, additional support can be provided. The employer will also be involved on the review process.

Are you eligible?

The programme falls into two funding categories 16 to 18 year olds and 19 to 24 year olds. The learner must not hold a higher qualification than the level they are studying for.

How much is it going to cost?

The employer is responsible for the apprentice salary. Wages must meet the National Minimum Wage of £95 per week. Funding is available to support the cost of training and this will come directly to the training provider.

What's the next step?

To speak to our employer engagement officer, please contact us on
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