



PRIOR ATTAINMENT 2021-22

Prior attainment level descriptors

Qualification equivalent (incorporating NQF and QCF and RQF)

Entry level

QCF qualifications at Entry level
Certificate in Adult Literacy, Numeracy, ESOL at Entry level
RQF qualifications at Entry Level
English and Maths qualifications at Entry Level
Key skills at entry level
Functional Skills at entry level
Essential Digital Skills qualification

Level 1

GCSE/O Level (at grades D-G or fewer than 5 at grades A-C)
CSE grade 2 and 3
1 AS Level (for AS qualifications regulated before 1 September 2015)
QCF qualifications at 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
Essential Digital Skills qualifications

Level 2

Vocational and technical qualifications at level 2 (not on the level 2 and level 3 legal entitlement list)
Functional skills at level 2
ESOL (skills for life)
Technical Awards in the Key Stage 4 Performance Tables
Performing Arts Graded Examination qualifications

Full level 2

GCSE/O Level (5 or more GCSEs grades A*-C)
GCSE (9-1) (5 or more GCSEs grade 4 or above)
2 or 3 AS Levels (for AS qualifications regulated before 1 September 2015)
CSE Grade 1 (5 or more)

Prior attainment level descriptors	Qualification equivalent (incorporating NQF and QCF and RQF)
---	---

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 that are on the level 2 and level 3 legal entitlement qualification list.

Level 3	Vocational and technical qualifications at level 3 (not on the level 2 and level 3 legal entitlement list) Core maths Technical qualifications (part of T levels) Components of international baccalaureate Performing Arts Graded Examination qualifications Pre U qualifications
----------------	---

Full level 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 that are on the level 2 and level 3 legal entitlement qualification list.
---------------------	--

Prior attainment level descriptors	Current Ofqual Regulated Framework (RQF)	Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
Level 4	QCF Award Level 4 QCF Certificate Level 4 QCF Diploma Level 4 HNC RQF qualifications Level 4	Certificates of higher education
Level 5	QCF Award Level 5 QCF Certificate Level 5 QCF Diploma Level 5 HND RQF qualifications Level 5	Foundation degrees
Level 6	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+	QCF Award Level 7 QCF Certificate Level 7 QCF Diploma Level 7 RQF qualifications Level 7	Doctorates
	QCF Award Level 8 QCF Certificate Level 8 QCF Diploma Level 8 RQF qualifications Level 8	Masters degrees, postgraduate certificates and diplomas