

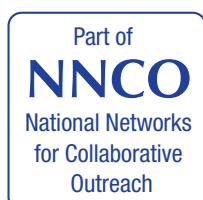


Qualification Levels

Different types of qualifications are grouped together into various 'levels'. The table below will help you see how different qualifications compare and how one qualification can lead on to another.

It is unlikely you would be able to progress onto a Level 4 qualification (except an Extended Degree) without a Level 3 qualification unless you have substantial relevant work experience.

Qualification Level	Academic	Vocational	Work based
Entry		Entry Level Certificate e.g. Adult Literacy	
Level 1	GCSEs (grades D-G)	BTEC Level 1	NVQ Level 1
	Foundation Diploma		
Level 2	GCSEs (grades A*-C)	BTEC Level 2	NVQ Level 2
	Higher Diploma		Intermediate Apprenticeship
Level 3	AS and A level	BTEC Nationals	NVQ Level 3
	Access to HE Diploma		
	Progression Diploma		Advanced Apprenticeship
	Advanced Diploma		
Level 4	Certificate of HE	Higher National Certificate (HNC)	Higher Apprenticeship
		BTEC Professional	
Level 5	Diploma of HE	Higher National Diploma (HND)	NVQ Level 4
		BTEC Professional	
		Foundation Degree	
Level 6	Honours Degree	BTEC Advanced Professional	Degree Apprenticeship
	PGCE		
Level 7	Masters Degree	BTEC Advanced Professional	NVQ Level 5
	Postgraduate Certificate/ Diploma		
Level 8	Doctorate (e.g. PhD)		



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