

**Construction
and the Built
Environment
Diploma Guide**



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Introduction

The AQA-City & Guilds Construction and the Built Environment Diploma provides learners with a comprehensive introduction to the industry and its impact on the wider community, incorporating flexible and balanced framework. This balanced programme enables learners to develop a range of skills with a focus on current industry issues such as sustainability, with a wide scope for specialist learning.

Why choose AQA-City & Guilds Construction and the Built Environment Principal Learning?

- minimum of two free personal moderator visits per year, involving direct support and advice
- levels 1 and 2 allow co-teaching to create an inclusive qualification with opportunities for an optimum level of learner achievement
- industry focussed framework developed in close consultation with ConstructionSkills, SummitSkills, Asset Skills, Energy & Utility Skills, Proskills and the Engineering Construction Industry Training Board to ensure content is relevant to the current industry, and prepares learners for entry into the workplace
- free teaching materials, resources and training on course planning and moderation to support you with Diploma delivery
- fully embedded Personal, Learning and Thinking Skills (PLTS) within the assessment criteria for you to easily assess when the learners develop these six skills
- clearly signposted Functional Skills to help you assist learners to develop these key employability skills
- opportunities for applied learning, giving you ideas for employer engagement and providing learners with opportunities to gain experience in a work environment
- larger provision for internal assessment to allow for integration into practical assignments, reducing the examination burden



Diploma Structure

Diploma Level	Principal Learning	Generic Learning			Additional and Specialist Learning
	Main Subject (eg CBE)	Project	Functional Skills	Work Experience	May include: - GCSEs, AS/A Levels - Vocational Quals
Foundation Diploma (600 GLH)	Practical Assessments + 1 Exam (240 GLH)	Foundation Project (60 GLH)	L1 - English / Maths / ICT (120 GLH)	Minimum 10 days	Qualifications chosen by the learner (120 GLH)
Higher Diploma (800 GLH)	Practical Assessments + 1 Exam (420 GLH)	Higher Project (60 GLH)	L2 -English/ Maths/ICT (80 GLH)	Minimum 10 days	Qualifications chosen by the learner (180 GLH)
Advanced Diploma (1080 GLH)	Practical Assessments + 2-3 Exam (540 GLH)	Extended Project (120 GLH)	L2 - English/ Maths/ICT	Minimum 10 days	Qualifications chosen by the learner (360 GLH)
Progression Diploma (720 GLH)	Practical Assessments + 2-3 Exam (540 GLH)	Extended Project (120 GLH)	L2 - English/ Maths/ICT	Minimum 10 days	Not included

Principal Learning

All Principal Learning units are compulsory for Diploma learners. Principal Learning includes at least 50% applied learning which consists of knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes to support progress through a work-related context. Opportunities to develop and apply generic skills are also integrated into Principal Learning.

Level 1

Level 1 Principal Learning covers the following:

Unit	GLH	Assessment Method
1 Design the built environment: design influences	30	Internal
2 Design the built environment: applying design principles	30	Internal
3 Create the built environment: using tools	30	Internal
4 Create the built environment: methods and materials	30	External
5 Value and use the built environment	30	Internal
6 Maintenance of the built environment	30	Internal
7 Modern methods of construction	30	Internal

For example, in unit 1 the learner will:

- know the factors that influence the design process
- know the factors that affect the planning process and how planning affects design
- understand how a sustainable approach can be used in good design
- be able to perform simple tests on construction materials

Level 2

Level 2 Principal Learning covers the following:

Unit		GLH	Assessment Method
1	Design the built environment: the design process	60	Internal
2	Design the built environment: materials and structures	60	Internal
3	Design the built environment: applying design principles	60	Internal
4	Create the built environment: structures	60	Internal
5	Create the built environment: using tools	60	Internal
6	Value and use of the built environment: communities	60	Internal
7	Value and use of the built environment: facilities management	60	External

For example, in unit 1 the learner will:

- understand the factors that influence the design process
- understand planning requirements and how they are applied to a wide range of different developments
- know the technical information needed to support the design process

Level 3

Level 3 Principal Learning covers the following:

Unit		GLH	Assessment Method
1	Design the built environment: design factors	60	External
2	Design the built environment: stages in the design and planning process	90	Internal
3	Design the built environment: physical and environmental processes	90	Internal
4	Create the built environment: health, safety, and environmental influences	60	External
5	Create the built environment: management processes	90	Internal
6	Value and use of the built environment: adding value to the wider community	90	Internal
7	Value and use of the built environment: protecting and maintaining	60	External

For example, in unit 1 the learner will:

- understand how historical, political, economic, social, and aesthetic factors affect design
- know how and why the built environment has changed over time
- understand how the built environment adapts to meet changing political, economic, social, infrastructural and aesthetic requirements

Generic Learning

Generic Learning provides skills relevant to learning, training and working in all lines of learning across all sectors. It includes Functional Skills and Personal, Learning and Thinking Skills (PLTS) which are embedded in and assessed through the Principal Learning component.

Functional Skills

We offer Functional Skills qualifications built around developing practical skills in English, Mathematics and Information and Communication Technology (ICT). Functional Skills has been identified as being vital for building confidence and gaining the most out of work, education and everyday life.

Both AQA and City & Guilds are offering Functional Skills independently and are both suitable for Diplomas.

For further information visit:
www.aqa.co.uk/qual/gcse/functional_skills.php
www.cityandguilds.com/19824.html
www.qcda.gov.uk/6062.aspx

Personal, Learning and Thinking Skills

As a learner progresses, they will acquire work-relevant skills through activities they undertake. Personal, Learning and Thinking Skills are embedded in the Principal Learning and help learners to develop their potential as:

- Team workers
- Independent enquirers
- Creative thinkers
- Self managers
- Effective participators
- Reflective learners

Work Experience

This component is usually linked to the Diploma subject that is being studied but does not always have to be the case. This element is usually taken over 10 days to help learners gain insight into practical skills, values and attitudes needed in the workplace.



Additional and Specialist Learning

Additional and Specialist Learning (ASL) provides learners with greater breadth (Additional Learning) and depth (Specialist Learning) of study and enables them to tailor their personal programmes to their own interests and ambitions.

ASL can be taken at the chosen Diploma level through learners selecting a single qualification or a combination of qualifications to meet the required Guided Learning Hours. Learners will select from qualifications at the same level as the Diploma that they are taking, or one higher eg the Foundation Diploma can have ASL at Level 1 or 2. ASL forms part of the Diploma and fits into the overall structure as follows:

	Guided Learning Hours (GLH) Foundation	Guided Learning Hours (GLH) Higher	Guided Learning Hours (GLH) Advanced
Principal Learning	240	420	540
Generic Learning	240	200	180
Additional and Specialist Learning	120	180	360
10 days work experience			
Total	600	800	1080

For ASL there is a minimum amount of GLH that a learner will need to gain for each level. GLH can be more than the requirement at each level by up to 50%. For example:

Foundation level GLH can be anywhere between 120 - 180.	Higher level GLH can be anywhere between 180 - 270.	Advanced level GLH can be anywhere between 360 - 540.
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The National Database of Accredited Qualifications (NDAQ) has a Diploma catalogue that lists all the ASL qualifications for each line of learning.

Visit www.accreditedqualifications.org.uk

QCDA Diploma Validator is a useful tool to help curriculum planners check that every Diploma is following a valid programme of study.

Visit <http://diplomavalidator.qcda.gov.uk>



Level 1

Below are 4 examples of potential routes a learner might take and what qualification/s they could choose as part of their Additional and Specialist Learning.

Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
Construction and BE Specialist Pathway	Welding Pathway	Engineering Pathway	Computer Aided Design Pathway



Qualification

City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Construction Technology and the Built Environment (Pilot) (S) 180 GLH	City & Guilds Level 1 Certificate in Introductory Welding Skills (S) 60 GLH and City & Guilds Level 1 Certificate for IT Users (A) 90 GLH	City & Guilds Level 1 Certificate in Engineering (A) 180 GLH	City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Computer Aided Design (CAD) Parametric Modelling (A) 90 GLH and AQA GCSE (Short course) ICT (A) 60 GLH
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GLH requirement for Diploma Level 1

120	120	120	120
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(A)- Additional
(S) - Specialist



Level 2

Below are 7 examples of potential routes a learner might take and what qualification/s they could choose as part of their Additional and Specialist Learning.

Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5	Option 6	Option 7
Construction and BE Specialist Pathway	Computer Aided Design Pathway	Welding Pathway	AS Level Pathway (any of those listed eg. shown)	GCSE Pathway (combining GCSE short course and GCSE – eg. shown)	Business Pathway	Air Conditioning / Business Pathway



Qualification

City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Construction Technology and the Built Environment (Pilot) (S) 180 GLH	City & Guilds Level 3 Certificate in Computer Aided Design (Parametric Modelling) (S) 90 GLH and City & Guilds Level 2 Diploma for IT Users (A) 160 GLH	City & Guilds Level 2 Diploma for IT Users (A) 160 GLH and City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Welding Skills (S) 60 GLH	AQA AS Level in Archaeology (A) 180 GLH	AQA GCSE (Short course) Business Studies (A) 60 GLH and AQA GCSE in Environmental Studies (A) 120 GLH	City & Guilds Level 2 in Business Admin (A) 90 GLH and City & Guilds Level 2 in Customer Service (A) 90 GLH	City & Guilds Level 3 Certificate in Mobile Air Conditioning Systems (A) 60 GLH and AQA GCSE (short course) in Business and Communications Systems (A) 120 GLH
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GLH requirement for Diploma Level 2

180	180	180	180	180	180	180
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(A) - Additional (S) - Specialist

Level 3

Below are 4 examples of potential routes a learner might take and what qualification/s they could choose as part of their Additional and Specialist Learning.

Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
Heating and Ventilation Installation Pathway	Computer Aided Design/IT Pathway	A Levels Pathway (any of those listed eg. shown)	AS Levels Pathway (any two of those listed eg. shown)



Qualification

City & Guilds Level 3 Certificate in Heating and Ventilating Installation (A) 372 GLH	City & Guilds Level 3 Certificate in Computer Aided Design (Parametric Modelling) (S) 90 GLH and City & Guilds Level 3 Diploma for IT Users E-quals Enhanced (A) 330 GLH	AQA A Level in Design and Technology Systems and Control Technology (A) 360 GLH	AQA AS Level in Environmental Studies (A) 180 GLH and AQA AS Level in Electronics (A) 180 GLH
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GLH requirement for Diploma Level 3

360	360	360	360
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(A)- Additional
(S) - Specialist



Project

A Project chosen by each individual learner is taught at each level, requiring them to show their ability to plan, deliver and present a piece of work. It offers learners an opportunity to produce an extended piece of work, either in an area that they are studying, or in which they have a particular interest.

Teaching Resource Pack

Benefit from our free of charge Diploma Teaching Resource Pack. These resources will support you on your journey through teaching, planning and delivery. Take advantage of specially developed teaching materials, a dedicated Diploma website and benefit from specifically assigned personal support to help you along your way. You can get:

Teaching Materials

- Easy to follow **Principal Learning Specifications** written by practicing teachers and lecturers which include fully embedded Personal, Learning and Thinking Skills within the assessments and clearly signposted Functional Skills
- **Sample External Assessment Materials** for externally assessed units
- **Sample Internal Assessment Materials** examples at all levels
- **Schemes of Work** giving you examples for teaching delivery that can be used at any level
- **Resource List** with references and links to a wide range of helpful teaching resources
- **Level 2 Student Handbook** an innovative way for your students to track their achievements and plan their progress while studying the Principal Learning component

Online

- Visit **www.diplomainfo.org.uk** our dedicated Diploma website
- **Enhanced Results Analysis (ERA)** an online tool giving you at-a-glance analysis of exam results by candidate and giving cohort to cohort comparisons for your own and peer centres
- **Links to other Diploma components** including Functional Skills, Project, Additional and Specialist Learning
- Additional and Specialist Learning and **career pathway information**
- **Diploma Talk Online Forums** provide tutors with a **24/7 online discussion facility** to interact with fellow **tutors** or **subject experts**
- Access Kerboodle, **Nelson Thornes online services** with a wealth of teaching, learning and assessment resources

Dedicated personal support and events

- Minimum two free moderator visits per consortium in your first year
- Direct access to **Subject Support Staff** for advice and support.
- **Regional Teacher Support Events** led by Subject Experts, Examiners or Moderators
- **Bespoke practitioner workshops** held at a centre within your consortium to address the delivery requirements specific to your needs

Visit www.diplomainfo.org.uk/CBE-Teaching-Resource-Zone.asp

Require further information ?

AQA-City & Guilds will do our best to help answer any questions that you may have about the Diplomas. We have a dedicated **Diploma Support Team** who are here to support you. If you would like to speak to a member of the team or secure a visit please email:
diplomadvisors@cityandguilds.com

Visit:
www.diplomainfo.org.uk

Telephone:
08700 242466