

About 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.

Additional Learning is complementary or broadening in character. It can include:

- qualifications that enable learners to explore a related sector
- national curriculum entitlement areas
- learning options such as languages, music or science that relate to individual needs, interests and aspirations
- GCSEs and other qualifications.

Specialist Learning gives the learner the opportunity for further learning within their chosen sector. It can include:

- existing qualifications and units designed to support progression within a chosen sector
- GCSEs and other qualifications
- specialist qualifications, designed specifically for the Line of Learning, that may enable learners to select a specified pathway.

ASL can be taken at the chosen Diploma level by learners selecting a single qualification or a combination of qualifications to meet the required Guided Learning Hours (GLH).

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 of the Foundation (Level 1) Diploma as follows:

	Guided Learning Hours (GLH)
Principal Learning	240
Generic Learning	240
Additional and Specialist Learning	120
10 days work experience	
Total	600

The Diploma catalogues list all the ASL qualifications for each line of learning, and are available on the National Database of Accredited Qualifications (NDAQ): www.accreditedqualifications.org.uk

Level 1

Below are 3 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
Environmental pathway	Plant pathway	Animal pathway



Qualification

AQA Level 1 / 2 GCSE Environmental Science (A) 120 GLH	AQA Level 1 / 2 GCSE in Biology (A) 120 GLH	NPTC Level 2 Intermediate Certificate in Dog Grooming (S) 120 GLH
or	or	
AQA Level 1 / 2 GCSE in Geography C (A) 120 GLH	NPTC Level 2 Certificate in Gardening (S) 125 GLH	
	or	
	NPTC Level 2 Certificate in Horticulture (S) 180 GLH	

Guided Learning Hours (GLH) requirement for Diploma Level 1

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

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 at Foundation level GLH can be anywhere between 120 - 180.

REQUIRE FURTHER INFORMATION?

Visit:

www.diplomainfo.org.uk

Alternatively, email us:

queries@diplomainfo.org.uk

