



QCF QUALIFICATIONS and APPRENTICESHIPS with PATA

No AGE barriers! **(Apprenticeships are for anyone)**

Apprenticeships are an excellent way of gaining qualifications and workplace experience.

As an employee, you can earn as you learn, and you gain practical skills from the workplace.

As an employer, you can recruit new staff and develop your existing staff and management teams within government subsidised frameworks that ensure you get current and relevant skills in your workplace.

Vocational QCF qualifications are part of the apprenticeship frameworks and are available to:

Early Years practitioners in Playgroups, Nurseries, Baby Units, Children's Centres, Childminders, Teaching Assistants and Playworkers.

The following information also applies to those not eligible for an apprenticeship

Who we are and what we offer:

PATA (UK) is a registered charitable organisation limited by guarantee with many years experience delivering vocational qualifications to the children and young people's workforce and in more recent years supporting teaching assistants and playworkers. PATA's Assessment & Training Centre is registered with both City and Guilds and the CACHE awarding organisations and we employ experienced, qualified tutors and assessors who have significant experience in early years, teaching and playwork. National training programmes are quality assured to ensure compliance with both the Sector Skills Councils and the Skills Funding Agency.

We offer Awards, Certificates and Diplomas on the new vocational Qualifications Credit Frameworks at Level 2, 3 and 4 supporting the development of management and leadership in settings.

Our specialism is in supporting and developing practitioners to recognise and achieve their potential. Our programmes are open to everyone irrespective of age or ethnicity but qualifications offered do have to be achieved in English. Entry criteria will apply to all qualifications and eligibility criteria will apply to all government subsidised training, eg. Apprenticeships.

PATA is **matrix** accredited. Our training standards and recruitment procedures require the active involvement of both the prospective learner and the employer to ensure advice and guidance is appropriate to the needs of the learner and the employer. Employer support throughout the training programme is essential for all QCF programmes because they are work-based qualifications.

If you would like a visit from us to help identify how apprenticeships can support your growth, please get in contact to arrange a meeting.

QCF Qualifications—AVAILABLE to ANYONE subject to eligibility criteria:

The new Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications are credit based units of study and now sit in the Qualification Credit Framework (QCF). PATA offers full qualifications and single unit accreditation for L2 from age 16 and L3 from age 18.

Qualifications available for apprenticeships are highlighted:

- **L2 Certificate** and **L3 Diploma** in Children & Young People (CYP)
- **L2 Award and Certificate**, and **L3 Awards, Certificate and Diploma** in Supporting Teaching & Learning in School (STL)
- **L2 and L3 Awards, Certificates and Diplomas** in Playwork
- **L4 High Professional Diploma** in Early Years (HPD)
- **L4 Children's Care, Learning & Development (CCLD)**

Apprenticeship frameworks:

- **L2 = Apprenticeship**
- **L3 = Advanced Apprenticeship**

All apprenticeships have a framework that consists of the QCF vocational qualification and either Key or Functional Skills together with ERR (Employer Rights and Responsibilities). At present PATA will be delivering Key Skills.

Key Skills in Communication, Number and for STL, Information Technology are required. At entry all learners will complete assessments in their own time. For apprentices, these results together with certificate evidence of any prior achievement and according to age of that evidence will determine whether or not the apprentice has any relaxation from any/all of the Key Skills on-line assessments. Key Skills also require the development of a short portfolio (which can be referenced from the QCF evidence) that all apprentices will be required to complete.

ALL learning programmes have time limits and may incur financial implications. For apprenticeships this will be the responsibility of the employer. All learning programmes will include 12 weekly monitoring that will actively involve the employer and apprentice to maintain progress.

Entry dates and Eligibility Criteria (*Note additional requirements for apprenticeships*):

Course start dates: June/July 2011 (Course interviews May/June 2011)

Duration: Level 2 approx 12 months; L3 approx 15 months

Delivery model: On and off the job training includes attendance at workshops, observation of practice, tasks, private study, assignments, tutorials, professional discussion. Expert witness within the workplace may be a requirement. Support within the workplace from Manager, Line Manager or Mentor is essential.

Entry criteria: Current CRB
Professional reference may be required
100% commitment to course requirements
Volunteer or employed in registered setting with employer support for minimum 2 sessions per week—Level 3 requires a clearly defined job role
Will have some previous experience and completed underpinning knowledge courses.
Key Skill assessments—Communication, Application of Number and ICT
Apprentices must be employed with employment contracts that recognise both on/off the job training hours within the overall employment and be paid at least the minimum wage for apprentices of £2.50 per hour in their first year
Apprentices cannot hold a Level 4 or higher qualification or be at University

Course fees: **QCF qualifications for non apprentices**—Price on application—will include £50.00 booking fee plus Reg/Cert to City & Guilds or CACHE. Instalments plans available.
Apprenticeships - subsidised according to eligibility, employer contribution may be required

PATA's Statement of Service can be viewed on the PATA website