

NCFE Level 3 Diploma in Playwork



Course Overview

The NCFE Level 3 Diploma in Playwork is designed for individuals who work or aspire to work in play settings, supporting children and young people to engage in freely chosen, self-directed play. This qualification provides the knowledge, skills, and understanding required to create safe, stimulating, and inclusive play environments that promote creativity, independence, and well-being.

Who is this course for?

- Current playworkers seeking a formal qualification.
- Those working in out-of-school clubs, adventure playgrounds, holiday schemes, or similar settings.
- Individuals aiming to progress into supervisory or managerial roles within playwork.

Course Aims

- Develop a deep understanding of the playwork principles and their application.
- Equip learners with the ability to plan, deliver, and evaluate play opportunities.
- Promote inclusive practice and safeguard children and young people in play settings.
- Support professional development and progression within the playwork sector.

What You Will Study

Throughout the course you will study:

- Unit 1 Understand play and the playwork principles
- Unit 2 Creating supporting environments for children's play
- Unit 3 Understand relationships in the playwork setting
- Unit 4 Understand how to support the safeguarding of children in the playwork setting
- Unit 5 Understand organisational frameworks to protect the rights of children
- Unit 6 Contribute to organisational frameworks to respond to all children's needs and preferences
- Unit 7 Understand play and wellbeing
- Unit 8 Understand health, safety and security in the playwork setting
- Unit 9 Maintain healthy, safe and secure environments in playwork
- Unit 10 Engage in professional development and reflective practice
- Unit 11 Develop and promote relationships in the playwork setting
- Unit 12 Prepare for and support children's play
- Unit 13 Explore different perspectives and influences on playwork
- Unit 14 Supporting inclusion in a playwork setting
- Unit 15 Organise travel for children
- Unit 16 Understand teamwork for quality playwork practice
- Unit 17 Provide food and drink in a playwork setting

START DATE

Available to enrol from August 2025

LEVEL

Level 3

STUDY MODE

Part-time

DURATION

9 months

AWARDING BODY

Northern Council For Further Education

LOCATION

Online Learning



For further information about this course, including Entry Requirements, Assessments and Further Study, scan the QR code.

Need More Information?

For additional course information please contact the Course Information Team on **01924 789111** or email courseinfo@heartofyorkshire.ac.uk.

To learn more about the Heart of Yorkshire Education Group, our facilities and how we can support you please visit our website www.heartofyorkshire.ac.uk.

Quick Links



How to Apply



Student Support



Virtual Tours



Attendance Expectations

There is no onsite attendance required, as this is a fully online course. Though learners are expected to undertake regular weekly study.

How You Will Be Assessed

Throughout the course you will be assessed through a range of assessment methods, including:

- Short answer questions
- Short essays
- Presentations
- Work place reflections.

Entry Requirements

To study this course you must be working or have a placement in a play environment.

These can include

- Before and after school clubs
- Holiday playschemes
- Adventure playgrounds
- Open access play setting

If you have any questions about the placement please contact distancelearning@heartofyorkshire.ac.uk

Fee Information

Funding is available for this course subject to personal circumstances and post code.

Further Study

Upon completion of the course, you could to progress to higher studies, including in Youth work

