



Access to Higher Education Diplomas



About the Access to Higher Education Diplomas

Access to Higher Education Diplomas are Level 3 qualifications designed to help people progress to higher education. They are aimed mainly at 'second chance' learners who don't have the traditional entry qualifications, such as 'A' levels, required by universities, many of which actively encourage applications from Access to HE learners. There are almost 200 Access to HE courses recognised by OCN London in a wide variety of subjects. Most courses run over one academic year, but other models are also possible.

About OCN London



OCN London is one of the largest Access Validating Agencies in the country. We have over 25 years' experience in providing support, development and quality assurance services for further education colleges and other organisations. We offer over 40 validated Access to HE Diplomas, all designed to help people progress to higher education. Thousands have gained university degrees and achieved their ambitions as a result of completing an OCN London Access to HE Diploma course.

What we can offer you



We know that quality is important to you. Our Access to HE Diplomas are widely recognised by universities and other HE institutions.

We also know that time is at a premium for you. So we offer a streamlined approach to centre approval along with rapid course recognition or transfer. Becoming an OCN London approved centre is simple and straightforward.

We understand that you value a supportive approach to quality assurance. We aim to deliver this through our external moderation team.

We also understand the changing world in which you operate and the new challenges you are dealing with. Our staff have years of experience in teaching, assessment and curriculum development and are always available to provide the support you need.

We will work in partnership with you to ensure you get the very best out of your learners and help them to succeed and progress into higher education.

“WE HAVE FOUND OCN LONDON A BREATH OF FRESH AIR – IT FEELS LIKE A RELATIONSHIP. WE HAVE HAD STRUCTURED DIALOGUE AND THEY HAVE BEEN HUGELY SUPPORTIVE IN GETTING US STARTED WITH ACCESS.”

Richard Evans, Head of School – STEM, Care & Education, Kendal College

We offer Access to HE Diplomas in a broad range of subject areas

Health and Social Care

Nursing
Midwifery
Health and Human Sciences
Health and Social Care
Social Work
Youth and Community Work
Counselling

Science

Science
Biomedical Sciences
Medicine and Medical Biosciences
Pharmacy and Bio-Medical Science
Forensic Science
Paramedic Science
Radiography
Sports Science

Technology, Engineering and Maths

Engineering
Built Environment
Computing

Performing Arts

Music Technology
Music
Drama
Theatre Arts

*New for 2017/18

OCN LONDON IS ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS. THEY CELEBRATE THE ACCESS TO HE QUALIFICATION. THEIR HEARTS ARE IN IT, SUPPORTING LEARNERS AND, ABOVE ALL, SETTING THE RIGHT STANDARDS.

Louise Andronicou, Associate Professor in Law and Director of Student Recruitment & Admissions, London South Bank University.

Media and Design

Art and Design
Design
Creative and Digital Media
Fashion
Media Studies
Media and Cultural Studies
Fashion Media and Communication
Digital Marketing and Social Media

Humanities, Social Science and Teaching

Humanities and Social Science
Humanities
Social Science
International Relations*
Creative Studies
Law
Teacher Training
Primary Teaching

Business and Finance

Business Studies
Business and Accounting
Business and Law*
Fashion Business
Hospitality, Leisure & Tourism
Accounting and Finance*
Trading and Finance

For learners who need help in preparing to study at Level 3 we offer pre-Access qualifications at Level 2 in six subject areas;

- Applied Science and Technology
- Business Administration and Finance
- Building and Construction
- Creative and Digital Industries
- Engineering
- Health and Social Care

These are designed to help people make a smooth transition into the Access to HE Diploma. They can be offered either on a stand-alone basis or alongside delivery of other qualifications such as GCSE maths or English.



A student at London South Bank University, which has a partnership arrangement with OCN London

Five reasons to work with us

- You will get a personal service with direct access to a named contact and a quick turnaround.
- We pride ourselves on our close relationships with centres. The people we work with see us as a trusted partner, not just a supplier.
- We understand how important flexibility is to you. Our qualifications and assessments address the needs of diverse learners with different learning styles.
- We offer exceptional value for money, plus the very best professional guidance and expertise from our specialist Access team.
- We have a reputation for high quality delivered through a supportive programme of monitoring and standardisation. The OCN London brand carries national recognition, is well known and respected.

We also provide you with

- Support visits to provide advice and guidance and consider future development opportunities.
- A flexible approach to assessment, including exemplar materials for a wide range of units.
- CPD events for teachers and moderators, plus regular centre forum events and other networking opportunities.
- An ePortfolio system which is FREE to use for our approved centres.



A learner on an Access to HE Diploma course at The College of Haringey, Enfield and North East London

Inspirational Stories

Every year we offer special awards to outstanding Access to HE learners. Hearing their stories demonstrates the real impact of Access to HE on people's lives. Read what just two have said.

Alisha Margetts gained an Access to HE Diploma in Midwifery at Kingston College. She is now studying Midwifery at the University of Surrey. As a mature student in her forties Alisha had been out of education for many years. But she worked tirelessly, managing to study for a GCSE in maths and work 30 hours a week as a maternity care assistant at the same time as her Access to HE course. Alisha remained focused on her ultimate goal and achieved distinctions in all the graded work.

“**TO BEGIN WITH I FELT THERE WERE LOTS OF BARRIERS. BUT I SOON REALISED THAT AGE IS NOT A BARRIER. LEARNING GIVES YOU A NEW LEASE OF LIFE. BE BRAVE AND GO FOR IT.**”

Claire Kettlewell gained an Access to HE Diploma in Health and Human Sciences at Kendal College. She is now studying Occupational Therapy at the University of Cumbria. After passing GCSEs in English and Maths she embarked on the Access to HE Diploma. Problems with dyslexia meant she had to spend hours writing and rewriting assignments, but after gaining her first distinction there was no stopping her.

“**MY MESSAGE TO ANYONE IS GET ON THAT COURSE, BECAUSE IT WILL BE THE BEST THING YOU WILL EVER DO. IT WAS HARD, JUGGLING A FAMILY, HOUSE AND MONEY. AT TIMES I THOUGHT I WOULD NEVER ACHIEVE MY GOAL. BUT I'VE COME THROUGH IT.**”

Coventry University College's approach to Access.

Coventry University College specialises in offering learners the opportunity to gain higher education qualifications in a varied and flexible way which fits more closely with their lifestyle and commitments outside study. Their research discovered a market for mature learners who were keen to pursue a degree to upgrade their skills but lacked the necessary qualifications to gain entry into university. So the College chose to deliver Access to HE courses, which have proved to be a huge success for their learners. Some have gained entry into top universities and have also been awarded bursaries.



Learners at Coventry University College



Our mission is to help create a fairer society where everyone, whatever their educational background, has an opportunity to benefit from learning and realise their potential.

Who we are

OCN London is a national not-for-profit organisation that creates and awards qualifications. We work in partnership with educators, training providers, charities, employers and prisons to help transform people's lives through learning. Our focus is on providing opportunities for people - many of them 'second chance' learners who have missed out on traditional education - to progress and achieve their potential. This is at the heart of our mission.

What we do

We offer national awards specialising in qualifications for learners aged 14 upwards. We are a market leader in the recognition of achievement through credit-based units. This approach offers maximum flexibility for learners and the opportunity to create learning programmes that reflect their interests and ambitions.

We develop bespoke programmes that enable organisations to deliver accredited training that meets their exact needs.

We provide training for teachers and tutors, assessors, moderators/verifiers and administrators. This can be tailored to your specific needs and delivered on your premises.

We also offer a quality mark to organisations that want recognition for the quality of their learning and development provision for staff and customers.

With a team dedicated to offering exceptional support and expertise, we have achieved a reputation for enhancing quality and providing a personal and responsive service to our centres.



Find out how OCN London can make a difference to your organisation.

Get in touch. We'll be happy to talk to you.

 OCN London
15 Angel Gate
326 City Road
London EC1V 2SF

 www.ocnlondon.org.uk
 enquiries@ocnlondon.org.uk
 020 7278 5511
 @OCNLondon

