

OCN LONDON

QUALIFICATION GUIDE

Level 1 Award in Information, Advice or Guidance



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OCNLR Level 1 Award in Information, Advice or Guidance
Qualification No: 600/9606/8

OCN London aims to support learning and widening opportunities by recognising achievement through credit-based courses and qualifications, promoting high standards of excellence and inclusiveness.

We are proud of our long-term role and unique history in providing, innovative learning solutions for a wide range of learners and particularly those who have not previously benefitted from education.

At the heart of what OCN London offers is:

- a commitment to inclusive credit-based learning;
- the creative use of credit with responsive, demand-led qualification development;
- high quality service and support;
- respect for and encouragement of diversity – in learners and learning approaches, partners and settings;
- the development of people, capacity and resources that will ensure effective business partnerships.

To navigate within this Qualification Guide

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General Information

This qualification guide contains details of everything you need to know about the [OCNLR Level 1 Award in Information, Advice or Guidance](#). It makes reference to the curriculum areas covered, identifies the learners for whom the qualification has been developed and specifies the rules of combination for achievement of the qualification. The guide also covers important aspects of assessment and moderation that are particular to this qualification. The guide should be used by all involved in the delivery and assessment of the qualification.

The Curriculum and Relationship Development Manager (CRDM) for your Centre will provide support and advice on how to seek approval to offer this qualification. Please contact the main switchboard for the name of your CRDM if you do not already know it. If you are not yet an OCN London Approved Centre but wish to use this qualification, please contact the administrative team at OCN London for details of the Centre Approval application process.

Qualification Overview

The **OCNLR Level 1 Award in Information, Advice or Guidance** is aimed at helping people to become active in promoting positive change within their own community. It is generic in nature, and so flexible, rather than being focused on specific issues. This, along with the practical nature of the course, enables learners to be enthused by their studies, pursuing their own particular interests and engaging in what is important to them.

Learners will benefit by gaining an insight into how they might ethically and responsibly engage with bringing about positive change in their local community, while developing useful transferable skills.

The **OCNLR Level 1 Award in Information, Advice or Guidance** is regulated by Ofqual, the qualifications regulator for England, and is registered on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF).

Qualification details

The **OCNLR Level 1 Award in Information, Advice or Guidance** is available at Level 1 only.

Level 1 Award in Information, Advice or Guidance

- Qualification Number: 600/9606/8
- Qualification credit value: 6
- Operational start date: 1st July 2013
- Review date: 30th September 2024
- Guided Learning Hours (GLH): 54
- Total Qualification Time (TQT): 60 hours
- Assessment requirements: internally assessed, internally and externally moderated.

Purpose of the qualification

The purpose of the qualification is to help learners engage and contribute to their community, take the initiative in bringing about positive change, and develop transferable skills, especially relating to communication and leadership, in the process. Such skills may aid their continued study, for example in higher education, and / or help with employment related skills, whether in a related vocation or more generally.

Who the qualification is for

The **OCNLR Level 1 Award in Information, Advice or Guidance** is aimed at those workers (either paid or unpaid) who are starting out in an information, advice role or whose role involves general signposting or referral to guidance.

The qualification is particularly suitable for those who are:

- Involved in general signposting in a paid or unpaid capacity in communities, who have not been involved in mainstream education for some time, and who would benefit from developing confidence through a relevant introductory programme of study.

- Interested in information, advice or guidance delivery and who, although not involved in this area at present, would benefit from a relevant introductory programme.
- New to a work role in the information, advice or guidance sector which includes general signposting, for whom this programme would prove a useful induction programme.

The qualification would be particularly useful for:

- Volunteers/paid workers within a broad range information or advice giving contexts
- Learning Champions
- Volunteers in local communities who are involved in a signposting or referral role
- Library and information staff
- Support staff in 14-19 educational establishments.

Learners will acquire skills and knowledge in the following areas:

- building alliances;
- effective negotiation;
- planning and delivering a campaign;
- evaluating own actions.

Entry guidance

The minimum age for access to the qualification is 19 years.

Progression and related qualifications

The [OCNLR Level 1 Award in Information, Advice or Guidance](#) enables progression to employment, further learning opportunities within employment, or further study.

The qualification meets the Foundation Learning strategy by:

- Providing learners with the potential and capacity to progress to Level 2 achievement
- Encouraging learners to re-engage with learning Raising learners confidence in their ability to achieve
- Enabling meaningful progression into employment or further education
- Providing an introduction to a particular sector
- Providing learners with generic skills and specific knowledge and understanding of the information, advice or guidance sector in a range of contexts
- Equipping learners with job specific skills
- Equipping learners with generic employability skills.

The OCNLR Level 1 Award in Information, Advice or Guidance relates academically to GCSE subjects such as sociology, psychology, English and citizenship and learners will be able to progress to:

- OCNLR Level 2 Award in Information, Advice or Guidance
- OCNLR Level 2 Certificate in Information, Advice or Guidance
- A Level 2 competence qualification in Advice and Guidance
- Other appropriate Level 2 provision.

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Structure of the Qualification

Rules of combination for achievement

The **OCNLR Level 1 Award in Information, Advice or Guidance** comprises 2 mandatory units and no optional vocational units. In order to gain the Award the learner must achieve 6 credits at Level 1.

Qualification units

Ofqual Unit Reference Number	OCNLR Unit Code	Unit Title	Level	Credit Value	GLH
Mandatory					
J/502/7980	HB7/1/LQ/002	Introduction to Skills - Delivering Information, Advice or Guidance	1	3	27
L/502/7981	HB7/1/LQ/003	Introduction to Underpinning Principles of Information, Advice or Guidance	1	3	27

For unit content please click the Ofqual Unit Reference Number

Assessment and Moderation

Assessment process

The assessment process for this qualification is as follows:

- the learners are assessed through activities that are internally set by tutor/assessors;
- the activities must be designed to enable learners to meet the assessment criteria of the unit;
- learners' portfolios of assessed evidence must be internally moderated at the Centre;
- the portfolios of assessed evidence will be externally moderated by an OCN London External Moderator.

There is no additional external assessment for this qualification.

Devising assessments

Each unit has a supplementary page with suggestions for the types of assessment activities that can be used to assess learners against the unit. Tutor/assessors should refer to this page before devising assessment tasks.

OCN London assessment guidance relevant to the units in the qualification is in the [OCNLR Assessment Guidance and Ofqual Level Descriptors](#) section of this qualification guide. The guidance includes a general description of the activity and the type of evidence that is appropriate. The activity or activities set must enable the learners to meet the standards detailed in the assessment criteria. Please contact OCN London for further guidance on devising appropriate assessments.

Centre-devised assessments should be scrutinised by the Internal Moderator before use to ensure that they are fit for purpose. Centre-devised assessments will be scrutinised by the External Moderator to ensure reliability and validity of assessment.

Marking assessment activities

Each activity must be marked against the identified assessment criteria in the unit and judged to be either achieved or not achieved.

Tutor/assessors need to ensure that the work in a learner's portfolio is:

- authentic – it is the result of the learner's own performance or activity;
- sufficient – enabling the tutor/assessor to make a consistent and reliable judgement;
- adequate – appropriate to the level.

Where a series of activities are set, learners must demonstrate the achievement of the required standard identified in the assessment criteria in all activities. All the assessment criteria in a unit must be met before the unit is deemed achieved.

The unit achievement is not graded. Units are either achieved or not achieved.

Standardisation

Standardisation is a process that promotes consistency in the understanding and application of standards in relation to assessment. It:

- compares assessment judgements from different tutor/assessors;
- promotes consistent judgements by different tutor/assessors;
- identifies good practice in assessment;
- promotes the sharing of good practice in assessment between Centre staff.

Standardisation events should be held periodically within Centres to ensure consistent and effective assessment practice. Standardisation events may also be held by OCN London and it is a requirement that each Centre offering units from the qualification must contribute assessment materials and learners' evidence for standardisation, if requested.

OCN London will notify Centres of the required sample for standardisation purposes and assessment materials, learners' evidence and tutor/assessor feedback may be collected by External Moderators.

Learners with particular requirements

If learners have particular requirements the Centre should refer to the [Access to Fair Assessment Policy and Procedure](#) which gives clear guidance on the reasonable adjustments and arrangements that can be made to take account of disability or learning difficulty, without compromising the achievement of the assessment criteria.

Requirements for tutor/assessors

To be sufficiently competent

In addition to being qualified to make assessment decisions, each tutor/assessor must be capable of carrying out the full requirements within the competency of the units they are assessing. This competence should be maintained annually through clearly demonstrable continuing learning and professional development.

Expert witnesses can be used where they have suitable expertise for specialist areas. The use of expert witnesses should be determined and agreed by the tutor/assessor.

To be sufficiently knowledgeable

Each tutor/assessor should possess relevant knowledge and understanding of the subject and so be able to make robust and reliable assessment decisions in relation to the subject.

OCNLR Assessment Guidance and Ofqual Level Descriptors

For OCN London's Assessment Guidance and Ofqual's Level Descriptors relevant to this qualification, please click on the link(s) below.

[Level 1 Assessment Guidance and Ofqual's Level Descriptors](#)

About OCN London

OCN London is a well-established national awarding organisation with over 25 years' experience in accrediting learning. We are a not-for-profit organisation with charitable status, dedicated to widening participation in learning and training, social inclusion and employability. We are also a market leader in the recognition of achievement through credit-based units and qualifications. Based in London, we work with Centres both across the UK and abroad, offering national qualifications and accredited programmes.

Our mission is to provide opportunities for people from across society to benefit from learning, particularly those who have not previously benefitted from education.

Why work with us?

- We are agile and responsive. This means 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 want to help you secure the best from your learners and employees.
- We have a reputation for high quality. The OCN London brand carries national recognition and kudos.
- We are flexible and recognise the importance of accommodating the needs of different learners and different learning styles.
- We offer exceptional value for money. Just ask the people we work with.
- We are committed to the belief that learning can change lives.

OCN London is regulated by Ofqual and the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

If you would like to deliver this qualification please contact our Curriculum Development Team on **020 7689 5867**.

For further information call **020 7278 5511**. E: enquiries@ocnlondon.org.uk

Or visit our website: www.ocnlondon.org.uk



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