

Level	Qualification Equivalents	Guidance
No qualifications	No previous qualifications studied	If you do not have any previous qualifications then please select this option
Entry Level	Entry Level QCF/RQF qualifications, Adult Literacy/Numeracy /ESOL, Entry Level English & Maths, Key Skills, Functional Skills, Essential Digital Skills	Entry level qualifications are traditionally for those who haven't been in mainstream education. Students with Entry level qualifications tend to have studied at specialist providers, for example SEND or ESOL.
Level 1	GCSEs below grade 4, CSE (2-3), 1 AS Level (pre-2015), QCF Level 1, Foundation 14-19 Diploma, Functional Skills, Adult Literacy/Numeracy/ESOL Level 1, Key Skills, Introductory Diploma/Certificate, GNVQ Foundation, NVQ Level 1, RQF Level 1, Technical Awards, Essential Digital Skills	Level 1 is primarily students who have studied GCSEs but did not achieve any grades above a grade 4. Alternatively, if you have not studied GCSEs you may have studied an alternative qualification at Level 1 as listed.
Level 2	Vocational/technical Level 2, Functional Skills Level 2, ESOL (Skills for Life), Technical Awards, Performing Arts Graded Exams	Level 2 is primarily achieved by students who have studied GCSEs and achieved less than 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above. There are also some alternative qualifications at Level 2 as listed.
Full Level 2	5 or more GCSEs grade 4+, 2-3 AS Levels (pre-2015), CSE Grade 1 (≥5), 1 A Level, Higher 14-19 Diploma, QCF Diploma/Certificate Level 2, Level 2 Principal Learning, NVQ Level 2, GNVQ Intermediate, Technical Certificate	A Full Level 2 is students who have achieved 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above. There are also other listed qualifications that are considered a full level 2.
Level 3	Vocational/technical Level 3, Core Maths, T Level components, IB components, Performing Arts Graded Exams	Level 3 tends to be part of a full level 3 qualification, for example if you have achieved the first year of a two year Level 3 qualification.
Full Level 3	2 A Levels, 4 AS Levels (pre-2015), BTEC Extended Diploma Level 3, Access to HE, Advanced 14-19 Diploma, GNVQ Advanced, NVQ Level 3, AVCE Double Award, T Levels, Applied Generals (from Aug 2015), QCF Certificate Level 3 (30-36 credits)	A Full Level 3 is for students who are aged 18 or above and have already studied for two years at College or Sixth Form and completed a full qualification. Refer to the list for further guidance.
Level 4	QCF Award/Certificate/Diploma Level 4, RQF Level 4, HNC, Certificates of Higher Education	Higher level education as outlined.
Level 5	QCF Award/Certificate/Diploma Level 5, RQF Level 5, HND, Foundation Degrees	Higher level education as outlined.
Level 6	QCF Award/Certificate/Diploma Level 6, RQF Level 6, Bachelor's Degrees, Graduate Certificates/Diplomas	Higher level education as outlined.
Level 7+	QCF Award/Certificate/Diploma Level 7-8, RQF Level 7-8, Master's Degrees, Postgraduate Certificates/Diplomas, Doctorates	Higher level education as outlined.