



London Youth, 47-49 Pitfield St, London, N1 6DA
Tel: 020 7549 8806 Switchboard: 020 7549 8800
email: beverley.stephney@londonyouth.org.uk

Date as postmark

Dear **Supervisor and Candidate**

Many thanks for your interest in the VRQ Level 2 Certificate in Youth Work.

Please read through this Course Information Pack carefully.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

Completed 5 page application pack is to be returned to London Youth by **Monday 3 December 2007 at 5pm**

Candidates: Please note that the candidate needs to fulfil the criteria listed in this pack to be considered for a place on this course.

Candidate's suitability will be assessed via the:

- 1) Candidate Application Form
- 2) Supervisors Supporting Statement
- 3) Interview on: **Monday 17 December 07 at 3.30-6.30pm.**

The supervisor does not need to attend the interview afternoon but it is part of the criteria for acceptance that supervisor attends the Supervisors Meeting on **Tuesday 22 Jan 2008 at 2-4pm.**

If you have any other queries, please contact Beverley Stephney, Training Administrator on 020 7549 8806.

Yours sincerely

Esther Thompson
Head of Training



VRQ Level 2 Certificate in Youth Work
National youthwork qualification
Accredited by national awarding body, ABC
JNC Recognised.

2007 - 2008

Course Information Pack

Purpose of Youth Work

"To work with young people to facilitate their personal, social and educational development, and enable them to gain a voice, influence and place in society in a period of their transition from dependence to independence."

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About London Youth

We are vibrant network of almost 400 youth clubs serving 75,000 young people across the capital. Our **vision** is of a great world city in which every young person, whatever their background, is valued and challenged to become the best they can be. Our **mission** is to improve services and opportunities for young people.

We want everyone growing up in and around London to enjoy access to high quality youth work - someone to talk to, information and guidance and life-enriching activities, all within a safe, stimulating and supportive environment. We work with young people in all their brilliant diversity, placing a particular emphasis on those who might be in any way disadvantaged or at risk of being excluded.

Aims of Qualification:

VRQ Level 2 Certificate in Youth Work

The qualification aims to improve the service to young people by providing a qualification that embraces national standards for the practice of youth and community work, identifying core competencies, containing knowledge requirements and levels of skill. The qualification is designed to be used for in-service training, work based learning and as a Technical Certificate for Modern Apprenticeships in Youth Work.

Who is it for?

This VRQ (Vocationally Related Qualification) is designed for people working in a youth work setting (public, voluntary or private sector, paid or unpaid) who are either new to youth work and be closely supervised in their work or have experience of youth work and want an access route to a qualification.

Candidates need to be working with groups of young people from the 11 – 25 years age groups, and it is recommended that participants undertake at least 50% of their fieldwork practice with 13-19 year olds, in line with guidance in 'Resourcing Excellent Youth Services' (DfES, 2001).

It is designed for those candidates:

- Wishing to acquire youth work skills to enhance future employment prospects
- Wishing to progress to more advanced study
- Seeking a specialist qualification in addition to their main programme of study
- Already in employment looking for professional development
- Studying for personal development in the wider sense of lifelong learning.
- It is recommended that candidates accessing this qualification will have completed full-time education up to the age of 16 years.

Course Hours

It is a part-time course comprising of 100 taught hours over 7 months (Jan 08 – July 08). It is one evening per week plus one Saturday per month. As well as these taught hours, students must complete a minimum 80 hours supervised face-to-face work with young people within a work or volunteering placement. **TOTAL: 180 hours.**

In addition to these 180 hours, candidates must also allow **personal time** to build a portfolio of work based evidence, which will include a number of course assignments.

Where is the course held?

Accessible central London venue plus one residential weekend in Buckinghamshire.

Information and Interview Afternoon

Monday 17 December 07 at 3.30-6.30pm.

Dragon Hall, 17 Stukeley St, Holborn, London WC2B 5LT

Course Dates

The course starts in January 08 and finishes in July 08. It is one evening per week and one Saturday per month. Dates to be confirmed.

Course Cost

£560 per student.

There are a small number of bursaries available for youth clubs or projects who might find it difficult paying the above fee. Please contact Esther Thompson, Head of Training on 020 7549 8805 or email esther.thompson@londonyouth.org.uk for more details.

This training course is a subsidised course by the Jack Petchey Foundation.

Please note that full board and lodging is provided for the residential weekend but no lunch will be provided on the Saturday training days.

Criteria for acceptance onto course

Assessed via application form, reference and interview.

- You are aged 18yrs plus.
- You have an understanding of what the course entails.
- You are able to explain clearly why you want to take part in the VRQ Level Two Certificate in Youth Work and what you want to get from it.
- You are able to attend the interview afternoon on **Monday 3 December 2007 at 3.30pm.**
- You are able to attend the course dates including the residential weekend. (Candidates are expected to attend 100% of the course sessions).
- You have an understanding of the time commitment involved outside the course dates: building a portfolio of evidence (completing assignments for six units of work), 80 hrs field work practice, plus attending supervision.
- Field Work Practice: You are regularly volunteering or working in a youth work setting with groups young people within the 11 – 25 age groups, and able to undertake at least 50% of fieldwork practice with 13-19 year olds in line with guidance in 'Resourcing Excellent Youth Services' (DfES, 2001).
- You have a commitment from a named supervisor to support you whilst you are on the course.
- Your supervisor attends the Supervisors Meeting on **Tuesday 22 Jan 2008 at 2-4pm.**
- You have completed the London Youth 2 day Introduction to Youth Work course or something similar **or** have been working with young people for two years or more.

Any Questions

If you have any questions regarding these criteria, please do not hesitate to contact Esther Thompson at London Youth on 020 7549 8805 or email esther.thompson@londonyouth.org.uk

Qualification Content

The units within the qualification represent those elements of the governmental **National Occupational Standards for Youth Work** deemed necessary for a qualification at Level 2:

Unit 1 Engaging young people in relationships and conversations

Provide candidates with the knowledge and understanding required to build trusting relationships with groups and individuals, and enable young people to express their aspirations and concerns and identify possible learning opportunities.

Unit 2 Young people as active citizens

The unit will provide candidates with knowledge and understanding of factors that affect young people's involvement in decision making, in their own lives and in their communities.

Unit 3 Encouraging young people to develop awareness and understanding of themselves

To provide candidates with the knowledge and understanding to offer opportunities to practice reflection, encouraging young people to see themselves in a wider setting of relationships and others.

Unit 4 Understanding and reflecting on practice and learning

Provide candidates with the knowledge and understanding required to understand the effects their values and attitudes have on their practice.

Unit 5 Equality, Diversity and Participation

Candidates will increase their understanding of how prejudice, discrimination and oppressive behaviour affect the lives of young people. They will develop strategies to help young people challenge prejudice and to enable young people to take responsibility for their own decisions.

Unit 6 Promoting a safe environment in youth work

Participants will develop their understanding of risk assessments, child protection and health and safety procedures that apply in youth work.

Portfolio of Evidence

All candidates must compile **a portfolio of evidence** that shows achievement of all the relevant learning outcomes and knowledge requirements for all the above units.

Further details of each unit's learning outcomes and knowledge requirements will be provided at the start of the course.

Accreditation

The VRQ Level 2 Certificate in Youth Work is a **nationally accredited** Vocationally Related Qualification (VRQ) and is part of the national qualifications framework (NQF) accredited via the national awarding body Awarding Body Consortium (ABC). London Youth achieved ABC Centre approval on 16 December 2004 allowing us to run ABC qualifications. ABC specialise in developing Vocationally Related Qualifications (VRQs).

VRQ's are designed to underpin much of the knowledge for the National Occupational Standards in Youth Work (NOS) and assist in the development of practical skills. In turn, NOS form the basis of National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs). Therefore, although VRQs have links with NVQs, they are not designed to deliver occupational competence and as such do not require delivery and assessment in the workplace.

All ABC VRQs are mapped to the NOS for purposes of future accreditation of prior learning (APL) should candidates opt to achieve the NVQ at a later date.

Progression Opportunities

Successful completion of this qualification provides sound preparation for further study.

Possible progression routes include:

- VRQ Level 3 Diploma in Youth Work
- NVQ 3 in Youth Work



Equality of Opportunity

Equality of opportunity is regarded as integral to all aspects of work with young people. It is recognised that there continues to be widespread, direct and indirect discrimination against many groups of people. Individuals and groups experience this discrimination as oppression, an habitual or systematic process whereby individuals, groups and institutions with ascribed or achieved power unjustly limit the lives, experiences, opportunities, choices and material well-being of those with less outward power.

London Youth and ABC will endeavour to ensure that through their policies, procedures and actions, all candidates entered for assessment are treated fairly and on an equal basis. Access to ABC qualifications is open to all candidates irrespective of gender, ethnic origin, creed, employment status, nationality, sexual orientation, marital status or special assessment arrangements. London Youth will ensure that no candidate is subjected to unfair discrimination on any of these grounds in relation to access to assessment and to the fairness of the assessment. A copy of London Youth's full Equal Opportunities and Diversity Statement is available from on request and ABC's full policy can be seen on their website.

Health and Safety: London Youth's Health and Safety Policy applies. Where training is held off site, policies of the host agency will also be followed.

Customer Services Statement: London Youth aims to provide a high quality, professional service at all times. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact London Youth at the address below.

Enquires

London Youth, 47-49 Pitfield St, London, N1 6DA.

Beverly Stephney, Training Administrator 020 7549 8806 Switchboard: 020 7549 8800

email: beverly.stephney@londonyouth.org.uk

www.londonyouth.org.uk

Other useful contacts

Course Accreditation: ABC, Bishops Hull Hse, Bishops Hull, Taunton, Somerset TA1 5EP TEL 01823 335491 email enquiries_taunton@abcawards.co.uk

www.abcawards.co.uk