

LEVEL 3 Diploma in Specialist Support for Teaching and Learning in Schools

A 100% online qualification with specialist units for supporting learners with additional needs, with full tutor support throughout.

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CREDITS

440

TQT

235

GLH

14

UNITS

OVERVIEW

A competence-based qualification that goes beyond core teaching assistant skills. Alongside child development, safeguarding and supporting learning, it adds specialist units on bilingual learners, disabled children and special educational needs, and behaviour, emotional and social development needs. Credits from the Award and Certificate can be carried over.

WHO IS IT FOR?

For teaching assistants, SEN teaching assistants, learning support assistants, learning mentors and pastoral support assistants in primary, secondary or special schools and early years settings, and for those aspiring to these roles.

DURATION & DELIVERY

Study 100% online through BSA's Virtual Learning Environment with full tutor support. Take up to 12 months at your own pace, or fast-track in as little as 8 weeks.

ASSESSMENT & VERIFICATION

Every unit is internally assessed by BSA's qualified assessors and externally verified by Focus Awards.

- Written assignments marked by your tutor
- Witness testimony signed by your supervisor

PRACTICAL REQUIREMENTS

- A work placement or volunteering role in a school is required
- Practical tasks are assessed in your workplace
- Tasks can be spread across the whole course
- Witness testimony is needed for some units

UNIT STRUCTURE (14)

1. Communication and professional relationships with children, young people and adults
2. Schools as organisations
3. Support learning activities
4. Promote children and young people's positive behaviour
5. Develop professional relationships with children, young people and adults
6. Promote equality, diversity and inclusion in work with children and young people
7. Support assessment for learning
8. Engage in personal development in health, social care or children's and young people's setting
9. Support children and young people's health and safety
10. Understand child and young person development
11. Understand how to safeguard the well-being of children and young people
12. Support bilingual learners
13. Support disabled children and young people and those with special educational needs
14. Support children and young people with behaviour, emotional and social development needs

CAREER PATHS

Graduates move into senior roles such as Senior Teaching Assistant or Senior Special Educational Needs Teaching Assistant.

COURSE FACTS

Awarding body: **Focus Awards**

Qualification No.: [601/7672/6](#)

Level: **Level 3**

Regulator: **Ofqual**

Study mode: **100% online**

Minimum age: **16+**

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Aged 16+
- No other specific entry requirements

PROGRESSION

On successful completion, learners can progress directly to:

- [Focus Awards Level 4 Certificate for Higher Level Teaching Assistants \(RQF\)](#)
- [Focus Awards Level 3 Award in Education and Training \(RQF\)](#)
- [Focus Awards Level 4 Certificate in Education and Training \(RQF\)](#)