

Our ref: G2EDPDA

27 November 2008

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Dear Colleague

Predecessor PDA: Certificate Childcare & Education (G2ED 15)

As you will be aware due to the publication of the Benchmark Statement and the development of SCQF level 9 qualifications in Childhood Practice there has been a heightened interest in the credit and levelling of our predecessor awards. However, as no funds were made available for us to undertake the full credit rating and levelling of such awards, we carried out a shorter exercise to assign the above qualification a notional SCQF credit and level.

This exercise carried out by two subject specialists concluded that the PDA: Certificate in Child Care and Education be assigned a **notional 48 credit points at SCQF level 8**. The rationale for this is set out below.

The key feature of this award was to enhance participant's professional practice at a supervisory level. Candidates were encouraged to exercise autonomy on many occasions, particularly while engaged in the professional study. The award also required candidates to demonstrate knowledge and skills equivalent to those set out in The Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework level 8 descriptor. These skills included:

- Applying core theories, principles and concepts for early years practice
- Independent learning and research
- Engagement in critical analysis across the award
- Using reflective learning to inform practice
- Working collaboratively with peers and other professionals
- Employing transferable skills
- Demonstrating appropriate academic processes and research methods
- Some opportunity for the development of leadership and management skills.

Please note it is not within SQA's remit to assign notional credit levels and values to predecessor SVQ's as we do not own the National Occupational Standards (NOS) that frame such qualifications.

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If you have any questions or would like further information regarding the above information please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the Care Scotland Team.

Yours sincerely

Eleanor Ramsay
Qualification Manager, Care Scotland