



Postgraduate Programme Specification

Session	2025/26	Last Modified	26/08/24
Named Award Title	Post Graduate Certificate Child Protection		
Award Title for Each Award	Post Graduate Certificate Child Protection		
Date of Approval	January 2020		
Details of Cohort Applies to	All new and existing cohorts		
Awarding Institution	University of the West of Scotland	Teaching Institution(s)	University of the West of Scotland
Language of Instruction & Examination	English		
Award Accredited by			
Maximum Period of Registration			
Duration of Study			
Full-time		Part-time	1 year
Placement (compulsory)	No		
Mode of Study	☐ Full-time ☒ Part-time		
Campus	☐ Ayr ☐ Dumfries	☐ Lanarkshire ☐ London ☒ Paisley	☐ Online / Distance Learning ☐ Other (specify)
School	Health and Life Sciences		
Divisional Programme Board	Mental Health Nursing Midwifery Health		
Programme Leader	Maureen Bell		

Admissions Criteria

Candidates must be able to satisfy the general admission requirements of the University of the West of Scotland as specified in Chapter 2 of the University Regulatory Framework together with the following programme requirements:

Appropriate Undergraduate Qualifications:

Applicants will typically possess a degree or equivalent. In the absence of a degree, where entry requirements do not conform to the general entry requirements, other evidence can be considered on an individual basis in line with Regulations 2.13 – 2.36 (Recognition of Prior Learning – RPL / Recognition of Credit).

Other Required Qualifications/Experience

Candidates must have relevant experience in the field of child care and protection to meet the programme's assessment requirements.

Further desirable skills pre-application

ICT skills and good communication skills.

General Overview

The Post Graduate Certificate Child Protection is designed and developed in the context of the Scottish Government's vision for the Child Protection system in Scotland, the ongoing policy initiative Getting It Right For Every Child and the current Child Protection Improvement Programme. This programme of education is for professionals who have a role in protecting children and has been developed in partnership with, and for a range of practitioners from Health, Social Work, Education, and Third Sector settings. The Post Graduate Certificate Child Protection uses a blended approach delivering three modules which are focussed around current policy themes and practice requirements. The structured approach to teaching and learning strategies enables progressive introduction to the skills required to function effectively as a member of staff with responsibilities in protecting children. Teaching and Learning strategies include self-directed study and lectures to enhance existing knowledge in relation to the protection of children. Simultaneously group work promotes communication, teamwork and mutual understanding of the roles and responsibilities of those who may be involved in the protection of children. Case studies facilitate the development of problem solving skills and a practical understanding of the complex legal, moral and ethical issues in Child Protection. Students will also participate in the use of "Aula" Virtual Learning Environment where lecture materials, external links to relevant websites and communication with staff and student colleagues can be accessed. Learning outcomes will be assessed by a variety of written assignments including a case study, group assignments, and essays with an emphasis on critical reflection on individual practice. There are opportunities for Recognition of Prior Learning (SCQF Level 11) towards some MSc programmes within the School of Health and Life Sciences for student to progress their studies and exit at Diploma or Masters Level

Typical Delivery Method

There will be 5 on campus study days for each of the 3 core modules which are designed to augment teaching and learning resources provided on Aula which will include lecturers, seminars and group activities.

Any additional costs

None

Graduate Attributes, Employability & Personal Development Planning

This programme will support students to develop characteristics which can contribute to the UWS graduate attributes of Universal, critical thinking and culturally aware. It will enhance their capacity to make informed judgments in respect of children's wellbeing and protection,

through knowledge and problem solving. It will help students to be work ready and develop an innovative and transformational approach, creating successful professionals

Work Based Learning/Placement Details

None

Attendance and Engagement

In line with the [Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure](#), Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.

For the purposes of this programme, academic engagement equates to the following:

Students are required to engage with the teaching and learning resources provided in the Virtual Learning Environment Aula and attend at least 80% of the on campus days.

Equality and Diversity

The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: [UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code](#).

In line with current legislation (Equality Act, 2010) and the UWS Equality, Diversity, and Human The School of Health and Life Sciences believes that education and practitioner diversity are central to achieving quality of care.

Within the module, quality of care, inclusiveness and employability are achieved by:

- Provision of a welcoming and supportive culture that promotes accessibility and equal opportunities to students and prospective students.
- Promotion of confidence and knowledge of their rights as a student and employee.
- Promotion of respect and knowledge of client diversity, their needs, rights and associated practitioner responsibilities.

The above aims, supported by staff belief in fairness and equal opportunities, guide content, teaching and learning, assessment and evaluation.

Disability disclosure is encouraged throughout recruitment, selection and throughout the duration of this module. Emphasis is placed on confidentiality of information the benefits of disclosure and that no detriment to progress will be experienced.

To enable the module to be responsive to the demand for equality and diversity, procedures and processes have been subject to Equality Impact Screening and where appropriate Equality Impact Assessment. Evaluation by all key stakeholders through the life of the module is also central to meeting commitments. Rights Code, our modules are accessible and inclusive, with reasonable adjustment for different needs where appropriate. Module materials comply with University guidance on inclusive learning and teaching, and specialist assistive equipment, support provision and adjustment to assessment practice will be made in accordance with UWS policy and regulations.

Programme structures and requirements, SCQF level, term, module name and code, credits and awards ([Chapter 1, Regulatory Framework](#))

Learning Outcomes

SCQF LEVEL 11 - Postgraduate Certificate (PgCert)	
Learning Outcomes	
Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	The student will have demonstrated the ability to critically analyse and evaluate theories, concepts and research evidence in relation to the Protection of Children
A2	The programme the student will have demonstrated a critical knowledge and understanding of the current evidence base and principles which specifically relate to Child Development
A3	The student will have developed an in-depth and integrated understanding of the complex policy, legal, moral and ethical issues that relate to the protection of children
A4	The student will have demonstrated an ability make informed judgements in relation to the complex issues which arise in planning and implementing an integrated assessment of a child's needs
A5	
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	Accept responsibility for personal professional development and apply personal knowledge and skill in promoting the protection of children
B2	The student will be able to use a range of specialised skills such as assessment and therapeutic intervention
B3	Deal with complex ethical and professional issues and make informed judgements on the protection of children, not addressed by current professional and/or ethical codes or practice
B4	Demonstrate leadership and/or initiative and make an identifiable contribution to change and development in the field of child protection
B5	
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	Demonstrates an ability to communicate to a wide range of audiences using different communication strategies
C2	Critically analyses and demonstrates an understanding of collection, collation and presentation of child protection statistics
C3	Demonstrates an ability to develop and progress in the use of ICT
C4	
C5	
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	
D1	Compiles and collates information allowing for the identification of the level of vulnerability in individuals, families, groups and communities

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				☐	☐	☐	
Footnotes for Option Modules							

Level 11- Postgraduate Certificate (PgCert)

Criteria for Award

Please refer to [UWS Regulatory Framework](#) for related regulations

The award of Post Graduate Certificate Child Protection will be conferred when the student has met the University requirements for the award of a Post Graduate Certificate in line with UWS Regulatory Framework which is 60 credit points of which a minimum of 40 are at SCQF 11 and none less than SCQF level 10 .

SCQF LEVEL 11 - Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip)	
Learning Outcomes	
Knowledge and Understanding	
A1	
A2	
A3	
A4	
A5	
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding	
B1	
B2	
B3	
B4	
B5	
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	
C1	
C2	
C3	
C4	
C5	
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation	
D1	
D2	
D3	
D4	
D5	
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	
E1	
E2	
E3	
E4	
E5	

Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip) Modules

CORE

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
				☐	☐	☐	

				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
Footnotes for Core Modules							

Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip) Modules

OPTION

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
Footnotes for Option Modules							

Level 11- Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip)

Criteria for Award

Please refer to [UWS Regulatory Framework](#) for related regulations

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SCQF LEVEL 11 – Masters						
Learning Outcomes (Maximum of 5 per heading)						
Knowledge and Understanding						
A1						
A2						
A3						
A4						
A5						
Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding						
B1						
B2						
B3						
B4						
B5						
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills						
C1						
C2						
C3						
C4						
C5						
Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation						
D1						
D2						
D3						
D4						
D5						
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others						
E1						
E2						
E3						
E4						
E5						

Masters Modules

CORE

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	

				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
Footnotes for Core Modules							

Masters Modules

OPTION

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
				☐	☐	☐	
Footnotes for Option Modules							

Level 11- Masters

Criteria for Award

Please refer to [UWS Regulatory Framework](#) for related regulations

Regulations of Assessment

Candidates will be bound by the general assessment regulations of the University as specified in the [University Regulatory Framework](#).

An overview of the assessment details is provided in the Student Handbook and the assessment criteria for each module is provided in the module descriptor which forms part of the module pack issued to students. For further details on assessment please refer to Chapter 3 of the Regulatory Framework.

To qualify for an award of the University, students must complete all the programme requirements and must meet the credit minima detailed in Chapter 1 of the Regulatory Framework.

Combined Studies

For students studying at Level 11, they will normally be eligible for an exit award of PgCert / PgDip / Masters in Combined Studies.

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