

## Skills and abilities at the different levels

Here is a brief guide to what skills and abilities you will gain at each of the different levels.

### Entry level qualifications

- provide basic knowledge and skills
- teach the ability to apply learning in everyday situations
- are not geared towards specific occupations.

### Level 2 qualifications

- provide good knowledge and understanding of a subject
- teach the ability to perform a variety of tasks with some guidance or supervision
- involve building knowledge and skills in a subject/work area and are appropriate for many job roles.

### Level 4 qualifications

- provide specialist learning, involving detailed analysis of a high level of information and knowledge in an area of work or study
- are appropriate for people working in technical and professional jobs, and/or managing and developing others.

### Level 6 qualifications

- teach specialist, high-level knowledge of an area of work or study to enable you to use your own ideas and research in response to complex problems and situations
- are appropriate for people working as knowledge-based professionals or in professional management positions.

### Level 8 qualifications

- provide the opportunity to develop new and creative approaches that extend or redefine existing knowledge or professional practice
- are appropriate for leading experts or practitioners in a particular field.

### Level 1 qualifications

- provide basic knowledge and skills
- teach the ability to apply learning with guidance or supervision
- may be linked to job competence.

### Level 3 qualifications

- teach the ability to gain or apply a range of knowledge, skills and understanding at a detailed level
- are appropriate if you plan to go to university, work independently or supervise and train others
- can be used to gain entry into higher education courses.

### Level 5 qualifications

- teach the ability to increase the depth of knowledge and understanding of an area of work or study, so you can respond to complex problems and situations
- involve a high level of work expertise and competence in managing and training others
- are appropriate for people working as higher grade technicians, professionals or managers.

### Level 7 qualifications

- teach highly developed and complex levels of knowledge enabling you to develop original responses to complicated and unpredictable problems and situations
- are appropriate for senior professionals and managers.