



PART OF **nocn** GROUP

# QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION

## **NOCN Level 2 Award in Understanding Damp and Mould in Domestic Dwellings**

**Qualification No: 610/3268/2**

**Operational Start Date: 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**Version: 1.0 September 2023**

### **To know more about NOCN:**

- Visit the NOCN website: [www.nocn.org.uk](http://www.nocn.org.uk)
- Call the Customer Service Team: **0300 999 1177**

## Introduction

NOCN is a market-leading awarding organisation that has been providing qualifications for a wide range of Centres, including FE colleges and training providers, for 30 years both in the UK and internationally.

We work with Centres to deliver a high quality and flexible service for learners to underpin our passionate belief in the power of education and its impact on communities and individuals.

We offer all the advantages of being with a national awarding organisation with a diverse portfolio of qualifications, alongside providing a personalised, bespoke, service to our Centres and learners.

As an accredited Leader in Diversity, we are proud of our reputation as a provider of fully accessible, trusted, and flexible qualifications.

## About NOCN Group

NOCN is part of NOCN Group, a progressive educational charity whose core aims are to help learners reach their potential and organisations thrive. The group includes business units specialising in regulated UK and international qualifications, end point assessment, endorsed programmes and assured short courses, Smart job cards, assessment services, consultancy, and research.

NOCN Group shares a joint purpose to offer learners, training providers, employers, and FE Colleges a fully integrated range of learning and skills development products and services.

Information about all our courses and qualifications is available from our website:

[www.nocn.org.uk/](http://www.nocn.org.uk/)

## Qualification at a Glance

<b>Title</b>	<b>Size</b>
NOCN Level 2 Award Understanding Damp and Mould in Domestic Dwellings	GLH - 7  TQT - 10  Credit - 1
<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Target Audience</b>
The purpose of this qualification is to equip learners with the knowledge and understanding to progress to further training in or progress into a job role in the building maintenance industry or housing industry.	This Level 2 qualification is primarily for learners aged 16 and above and who want to continue their education and/or develop their knowledge and understanding of their role as a building maintenance or housing professional.
<b>Content Overview</b>	<b>Entry Requirements</b>
This Level 2 qualification provides learners with a range of knowledge and skills. Learners will also develop an understanding of the causes of damp, condensation, and mould in domestic dwellings, how to identify, remedy and treat it, and its socio-economic impact on individuals and communities, for working in the building maintenance or housing industry.	There are no formal entry requirements for learners undertaking these qualifications. The qualifications can be undertaken without any previous training or qualifications in this subject area. However, some experience in building maintenance or housing would be an advantage.
<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Additional Resources</b>
This qualification will be assessed by 25 multi-choice questions, externally set, and externally assessed.	Supporting resources are available for this qualification on NOCN's vLearn platform.

## Summary of changes:

This section summarises the changes to the qualification specification since the last version.

<b>Version</b>	<b>Publication Date</b>	<b>Summary of Amendments (please add page numbers where changes can be found)</b>

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## 1. Overview of Qualification

This qualification is vocationally based and as such, offers the opportunity for learners to demonstrate understanding and knowledge of the causes of damp, condensation, and mould in domestic dwellings, how to identify, remedy and treat it, and its socio-economic impact on individuals and communities, when working in the building maintenance and housing industry.

The qualification will support learners working in various roles within the building maintenance and housing sector, to help them carry out their duties in regard to damp and mould problems. The qualification will also prepare learners to progress to a qualification in the same subject area but at a higher level or requiring more specific knowledge, skills and understanding, as well as meeting programmes of learning.

This qualification is for learners who wish to develop the knowledge required to progress to further training in or progress into a job role in the building maintenance or housing industry.

This qualification has been developed in response to Awwab's Law (an amendment to Social Housing Reform Bill), and the subsequent demand from the Government's Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, the Regulator of Social Housing and the Housing Ombudsman, for social landlords to fix their homes within strict new time limits, and with particular reference to damp and mould issues.

### Entry Requirements

There are no formal entry requirements for learners undertaking this qualification but it is intended for learners who want to continue their education and develop their knowledge/competencies and understanding of their role as a building maintenance or housing professional.

Learners must be in a position to demonstrate the requirements of the qualification and have access to required assessment opportunities and relevant resources. Please refer to specific assessment requirements on individual components for more information.

Centres should undertake initial assessment activities with learners to ensure this is an appropriate qualification and they are capable of achieving the level they will be studying before enrolling them onto a programme of learning.

This qualification is available to learners aged 16 years or over.

### Progression Routes

Achievement of this qualification confirms the learner has gained the knowledge and skills required to:

- progress to further training
- progress into a job role in the building maintenance or housing industry.

## 2. Qualification Details

### 2.1. Qualification Structure

The NOCN Level 2 Award in Understanding Damp and Mould in Domestic Dwellings is a 1 credit qualification with a Total Qualification Time (TQT) of 10 hours, including 7 Guided Learning Hours (GLH).

Learners **must** achieve all 1 credit from the **1** mandatory component.

Unit	M/O	Level	Ofqual Unit Ref	Credits	GLH	Assessment
Understanding Damp and Mould in Domestic Dwellings	M	2	K/650/8382	1	7	Multiple Choice Examination

## 2.2. Total Qualification Time (TQT)

Through consultation with users, TQT has been agreed by considering the total number of learning hours required for the average learner to achieve these qualifications.

TQT is split into two areas:

Area	Example of activities
<p><b>1. Guided Learning Hours (GLH):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• learning activity under the immediate guidance or supervision of a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training</li> <li>• includes the activity of being assessed if the assessment takes place under the immediate guidance or supervision of a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classroom-based learning supervised by a teacher</li> <li>• Work-based learning supervised by a teacher</li> <li>• Live webinar or telephone tutorial with a teach in real time</li> <li>• E-learning supervised by a teacher in real time</li> <li>• All forms of assessment which take place under the immediate guidance or supervision of an appropriate provider of training</li> <li>• Exam time</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. Other Learning Hours (OLH):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an estimate of the number of hours a learner will spend, as directed by (but not under the immediate guidance or supervision of) a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ preparatory work</li> <li>○ self-study</li> <li>○ any other form of education or training, including assessment</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Independent and unsupervised research/learning</li> <li>• Unsupervised compilation of a portfolio of work experience</li> <li>• Unsupervised e-learning</li> <li>• Unsupervised e-assessment</li> <li>• Unsupervised coursework</li> <li>• Watching a pre-recorded podcast or webinar</li> <li>• Unsupervised work-based learning</li> </ul>



### **2.3. Assessment and Evidence**

#### **External Assessment (externally set and externally assessed)**

Learners will be required to complete an end of unit knowledge test, accessed via the Test Platform, for the following unit:

- Understanding Damp and Mould in Domestic Dwellings

The knowledge assessment is designed to be taken on a computer using the online Test Platform, however, paper testing is also available in some circumstances.

The test is externally set and marked and consists of multiple-choice questions covering the Learning Outcomes and associated requirements for the unit.

The test is graded at Pass/Fail. The qualification is graded at Pass/Fail.

For further information on the Test Platform and the Invigilation Policy for Training Qualifications, please refer to the Products and Support section on the NOCN website or contact our Customer Services team.

#### **Assessment conditions**

- The end assessment consists of 25 multiple choice questions and the learners have 40 minutes to complete the assessment.
- The end assessment will be closed book, and the learners are not permitted to use their notes to answer the questions.
- The overall pass mark in the end assessment is 20 out of 25.
- Learners who achieve this mark or higher in the end assessment will receive the NOCN Level 2 Award in Understanding Damp and Mould in Domestic Dwellings.
- Learners who achieve less than 20 at the first attempt will be given the opportunity to re-take the test.

### **2.4. Fair and Equitable Assessment**

Assessment must be designed to be accessible and inclusive, and the assessment methodology must be appropriate for individual assessment, giving due consideration to any assessment requirements attached to individual components.

### **2.5. Learners with Particular Requirements**

If you are a NOCN Recognised Centre and have learners with particular requirements, please see the **NOCN Reasonable Adjustments and Special Considerations Policy and Procedure** found on the NOCN website at [www.nocn.org.uk](http://www.nocn.org.uk)

This policy gives clear guidance on the reasonable adjustments and arrangements that can be made to take account of disability or learning difficulty without compromising the assessment criteria.

The NOCN Centre Approval process requires the Centre to hold policy statements on Equal Opportunities, Diversity and Disability Discrimination, which will be reviewed by NOCN.

Please refer to the **NOCN Quality Assurance Manual** for further details.

## **2.6. Recognised Prior Learning**

Recognising Prior Learning is an assessment process that recognises learning that has its origins in a learner's experience and/or previous formal and informal learning contexts. This includes knowledge and skills gained within school, college, university, and outside formal learning situations such as through life, employment, apprenticeships, and other work experiences.

NOCN is committed to the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and has developed a policy and procedures to inform and support Centres. This is available on the NOCN website at [www.nocn.org.uk](http://www.nocn.org.uk)

## **2.7. Assessment and Evidence for the Components**

Assessment materials are only available to Centres approved to deliver the qualification.

All current assessment materials are available from NOCN's vLearn platform. Existing Centres have access to vLearn, new Centres must contact their NOCN Business Development Manager. Centres must use current live assessment material, always download the most up-to-date version before a learner starts their assessment.'

Forms and guidance for gathering learner evidence against the individual assessment criteria are available for download in Word format on the NOCN website:

[www.nocn.org.uk/support/nocn-support/quality-assurance/](http://www.nocn.org.uk/support/nocn-support/quality-assurance/)

## 3. Centre Information

### 3.1. Required Resources for Delivering the Qualification

As part of the requirement to deliver this qualification there is an expectation that staff undertaking roles as part of the delivery and assessment of the qualification have a demonstrable level of expertise.

NOCN expects that Tutors and Assessors are able to demonstrate the following competencies:

#### 3.1.1 Tutor Requirements

- Be technically competent/subject matter experts, hold or be registered as working towards, a recognised education and training qualification, have experience of delivering training within this subject area. The minimum expectation is that the level of competence of the Tutor should be at the same level as the training that is to be delivered.

#### 3.1.2 Assessor Requirements

- The assessment is by multi-choice questions, externally set and externally assessed.

#### 3.1.3 Internal Quality Assurer Requirements

Each centre must have internal quality assurance policies and procedures in place to ensure that the assessment delivery process is appropriate, consistent, fair, and transparent, and that they do not discriminate against any learner. The policies and procedures must be sufficient to secure the quality of the award, ensuring validity, reliability, and consistency.

NOCN expects that an Internal Quality Assurer is able to demonstrate the following competencies:

They should:

- Have an understanding of the subject area, have experience in carrying out internal quality assurance activities and hold, or be registered as working towards, a recognised Internal Quality Assurance qualification. The minimum expectation is that the level of competence should be at the same level as the qualification being quality assured.

NOCN supports and recognises Centres' internal quality assurance systems which support the above; any system should include standardisation and sharing of good practice.

Centre staff may undertake more than one role, e.g., tutor, assessor, or internal quality assurer, but they **cannot** carry out any quality assurance on work that they have previously assessed.

Refer to the **NOCN Quality Assurance Manual** for further information on the Internal Quality Assurance process. This can be found on the NOCN website at [www.nocn.org.uk](http://www.nocn.org.uk)

### **3.1.4 Continuing Professional Development (CPD)**

Centres are expected to support their staff, ensuring that their subject knowledge remains current and that their members of staff are up to date with regards to best practice in delivery, assessment, and quality assurance.

### **3.1.5 External Quality Assurance**

Once recognised as a Centre, NOCN will allocate an External Quality Assurer. The External Quality Assurer will have ongoing responsibility for monitoring the Centre's compliance with the requirements of recognised Centre approval status.

The External Quality Assurer will make regular visits to all Centres. During these visits they will:

Monitor the Centre's compliance with the Centre approval criteria by reviewing course documentation, meeting managers, tutors, internal quality assurers, learners, and administrative staff.

Review the standard of the Centre's assessment and internal quality assurance practices and decisions to determine whether all assessment requirements are met to support safe and valid claims for certification.

Refer to the **NOCN Quality Assurance Manual** for further information on the External Quality Assurance process. This can be found on the NOCN website at [www.nocn.org.uk](http://www.nocn.org.uk)

## **3.2. Offering the Qualification**

### **Existing Centres**

If you are already recognised to offer NOCN qualifications and would like more information about offering this qualification, please contact: [business-enquiries@nocn.org.uk](mailto:business-enquiries@nocn.org.uk), alternatively use Horizon to add this qualification to your Centre.

### **New Centres**

If you are interested in offering this qualification but are not yet a NOCN Approved Centre and would like more information about becoming a NOCN Centre and offering this qualification, please see **Become a Registered Centre** on our website <https://www.nocn.org.uk/customers/nocn-centres/> and click Become a Centre.

## **4. Component Information**

The Level 2 qualification consists of one Mandatory component. The qualification structure (**see section 2**) sets out the rules for achieving the qualification.

To achieve this qualification, a learner must provide evidence of learning and achievement against all the assessment requirements within the component.

A copy of the Mandatory component can be downloaded via the NOCN website.

<https://www.nocn.org.uk/products/qualifications/610-3268-2-nocn-level-2-award-in-understanding-damp-and-mould-in-domestic-dwellings/>



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