

# NVQ Assessment Centre (BYOT Centre)

## **Bristol Youth Offending Team NVQ Assessment Centre (BYOT Centre)**

We offer quality NVQs in Youth Justice Awards. The Assessment Centre is approved by [City and Guilds](#) to offer the Level 3 and 4 Youth Justice. Candidates interested in achieving an NVQ must currently work within the Youth Justice Sectors. They may be in paid or voluntary workers.



## **Centre Vision**

As an assessment centre we are committed to ensuring that our work will enhance the quality of service provision throughout the Youth Justice Sector in England. Through planning, implementing, reviewing and evaluation we help to promote quality NVQ assessments in Youth Justice

## **Aims of the Centre**

To facilitate access to NVQ in Youth Justice  
To provide a structure for the support of candidates, assessors and verifiers  
To promote quality assessments of competence through the NVQ awards  
To ensure that all work carried out is done so with dignity and respect for all participants.  
Confidentiality is adhered to at all time  
Protection of rights of individual agencies service users

## **The NVQ process**

If you are interested in the NVQ we will work with your employer in the following way:  
Interested, then contact the centre on 0117 9036480 or email [michele.burleigh@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:michele.burleigh@bristol.gov.uk)

1. Identify the level of award you wish to pursue
2. Identify candidates and match to assessor
3. Register candidate with City and Guilds
4. Induct candidate to the BYOT Centre and the Youth Justice award
5. The BYOT Centre provides ongoing support through the NVQ
6. Candidate achieves NVQ

## **Who we are**

BYOT Centre was set up in 2005 to provide unqualified youth justice workers and route to becoming a YOT practitioner. We could not find a centre to deliver the NVQ so we had no choice but to become a centre. It was one of the best decisions we made.

[Michele Burleigh](#) is a operational manager and Training manager at Bristol YOT and is a qualified Assessor and Internal Verifier. She is also the Quality Assurance Coordinator for BYOT centre. Michele has been working in Youth Justice since 1999 and within management since 2001.

Currently the centre has six A1 qualified assessor and one Internal Verifier.

## Frequently asked questions

**Q.** *Why work towards my NVQ?*

**A.** Candidates who undertake NVQs will have an opportunity to have their abilities and skills assessed as competent. NVQ also provide the candidate with an opportunity to apply for qualified posts. In some YOTs, NVQ level 4 is sited as a acceptable qualification to become a YOT practitioner.

**Q.** *Why would Agencies support staff working towards an NVQ?*

**A.** Agencies that are striving to gain recognition for providing a supportive programme of staff development can use NVQ achieve as evidence of their commitment to investment in their people. NVQs can assist the supervision and appraisal processes and can enable managers to assess and support staff from an objective set of occupational standards that define competent practice.

**Q.** *What about funding?*

**A.** There is currently no funding. If any pots of funding is identified by the centre we place information in the links page.

**Q.** *Do I have to go to college?*

**A.** No. BYOT centre has develop an 2 day course with *University of the West England (UWE)* that runs twice a year that provides NVQ candidates with the basic underpinning knowledge required for the level 3 or 4. It is not mandatory to attend but past candidates have found it invaluable to their work and own development. It is free to all NVQ candidates registered on the Youth Justice Awards. Bristol YOT also has a yearly *training manual*, that training staff in Asset, PSR and most key performance areas. This is also free to all NVQ candidates registered on the Youth Justice Award.

**Q.** *What kind of work do I need to be doing?*

**A.** NVQ candidates must be work in youth justice as assessment of competence is based upon 'real work'.

**Q.** *Can I just complete some units or do I have to complete a whole Award?*

**A.** Candidates may register for a complete Award - ten Units of competence are assessed for Level 3 – and eleven at level 4. Register for individual units, reflecting areas of specialism in their work role can also be done.

**Q.** *How long does it take?*

**A.** Candidates are supported by the Assessment Centre for twelve months. Candidates must be in their work role for a minimum of six months prior to registration.

**Q.** *What qualifications do I need to have to get on the NVQ?*

**A.** There is not required qualification for the NVQ but it is useful to have complete the YJB Professional Certificate of Effective Practice.