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## **Qualification Specification**

**Highfield Level 2 International  
Award in Infection Prevention  
and Control in Health and Care  
Settings**

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## Highfield Level 2 International Award in Infection Prevention and Control in Health and Care Settings

### Introduction

This specification is designed to outline all you need to know to offer this qualification at your centre. If you have any further questions, please contact your centre manager

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### Key facts

<b>Guided learning hours (GLH):</b>	7 hours
<b>Assessment method:</b>	Multiple-choice examination

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### Qualification overview and objective

This qualification is aimed at anyone needing to develop the underpinning knowledge of how to prevent and control the spread of infection in health and care settings.

This qualification is aimed at staff who require a refresher/CPD training or new staff members, who work in health and care settings such as care homes, health centres, surgeries, and childcare facilities.

The qualification provides learners with the basic knowledge and understanding of:

- the common health care associated infections
- the chain of infection
- the importance of correct handwashing procedures
- the use of personal protective equipment
- the decontamination processes (cleaning and disinfection)
- waste management (including sharps and spillages) and associated risks
- management and staff responsibilities, risk assessment and developing a positive infection prevention culture

**Important Note: Highfield recommends that you contact the relevant Government Department in the country that you want to deliver this qualification, to ensure that local laws are being adhered to and that there are no additional approval requirements. It may be that you are required to register as a training provider within the country itself. Highfield approves centres based on its own criteria but does not represent any other organisations or departments.**

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### Entry requirements

To register for this qualification, learners are required to be **14 years of age** or above.

Centres are responsible for ensuring learners can meet the necessary standard of language in which the course is being delivered.

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### Guidance on delivery

The recommended guided learner hours (GLH) for this qualification is 7 hours.

Guided learning hours is the time an average learner is taught by means of lectures; tutorials; supervised study; and blended learning. The delivery of this qualification may be adjusted in accordance with learners' needs and/or local circumstance. The recommended tutor and learner ratio for the delivery of this qualification is 1 to 20.

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### Guidance on assessment

The qualification is assessed by a multiple-choice question examination. This method of assessment is an end of course exam and must follow the Highfield Security and Invigilation Guidelines.

This examination contains **20** questions that must be completed within **45** minutes. Successful learners must achieve a minimum pass mark of **12** correct answers (60%). Learners who achieve **14** or above correct answers (70%) will be awarded a Merit. Learners who achieve **16** or above correct answers (80%) will be awarded a Distinction.

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### Tutor requirements

Highfield requires nominated tutors for this qualification to meet the following requirements:

- hold a relevant subject area qualification as below:
  - Level 2 qualification in infection prevention and control, **and**
  - Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care (Adults) for England (QCF) – with the following units:
    - R/504/2207 Supporting infection prevention and control in social care
    - H/501/7103 Causes and spread of infection
    - L/501/6737 The Principles of Infection Prevention and Control; **OR**
  - microbiology at level 3 or above; **OR**
  - nursing degree **OR**
  - any other qualification and or experience deemed appropriate by Highfield
  
- hold a teaching qualification or teaching experience

#### Suitable teaching qualifications include:

- Highfield Level 3 International Award in Delivering Training;
- Level 3 or 4 Award in Education and Training;
- Level 3 PTLLS;
- Diploma or Certificate or Degree in Education;
- Proof of at least 30 hours of training in any subject;
- Any other qualification/experience approved by Highfield

It is also recommended that nominated tutors are able to demonstrate relevant experience and knowledge in a work context and provide evidence of engagement with the subject field and continuing professional development.

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### Reasonable adjustments and special considerations

Highfield Qualifications has measures in place for learners who require additional support. Reasonable adjustments such as additional time for the exam; assistance during the exam such as

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using a scribe or a reader, is available upon approval from Highfield. Please refer to Highfield Qualifications' Reasonable Adjustments Policy for further information/guidance on this.

[https://www.highfieldqualifications.com/Assets/Files/Highfield\\_Reasonable\\_Adjustments\\_Policy.pdf](https://www.highfieldqualifications.com/Assets/Files/Highfield_Reasonable_Adjustments_Policy.pdf)

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## ID requirements

All learners should be instructed, ahead of the course/assessment when the learner registers and/or with any pre-course materials, to bring photographic identification to the assessment to be checked by the invigilator.

It is the responsibility of the Centre to have systems in place to ensure that the person taking an examination/assessment is indeed the person they are claiming to be. All Centres are therefore required to ensure that each learners identification is checked before they are allowed to sit the examination/assessment and write the type of photo identification provided by each learner on the Learner List under "Identification Provided". Highfield will accept the following as proof of a learners' Identity:

- National identity card (e.g. Emirates ID card);
- Valid passport (any nationality);
- Signed photo card driving license;
- Valid warrant card issued by police, local authority or equivalent; or
- Other photographic ID card, e.g. employee ID card (must be current employer), student ID card, travel card.

**For more information on learner ID requirements, please refer to Highfield Qualifications' Core Manual.**

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## Progression opportunities

On successful completion of this qualification, learners may wish to continue their development by undertaking one of the following qualifications:

- Highfield Level 3 Award in Effective Auditing and Inspection (RQF)
- Highfield Level 2 Award in Health and Safety within Health and Social Care Settings (RQF)
- Highfield Level 3 Award in Health and Safety in the Workplace (RQF)
- Highfield Level 2/3 Award in Risk Assessment (RQF)

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## Useful websites

- [www.Highfieldproducts.com](http://www.Highfieldproducts.com) (Highfield Products)
- [www.Highfieldqualifications.com](http://www.Highfieldqualifications.com) (Highfield Qualifications)
- [www.Highfieldinternational.com](http://www.Highfieldinternational.com) (Highfieldabc MEA)

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## Recommended training materials

- *The Infection Prevention and Control Handbook* Bissett, L. Highfield Products
- *The Infection Prevention and Control Training PowerPoint*, Highfield Products
- *Infection Prevention and Control E-learning*, Highfield E-learning

## Appendix 1: Qualification content

### Unit: Understanding infection prevention and control

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria
<i>The learner will</i>	<i>The learner can</i>
<p><b>1. Understand the common infections and the chain of infection</b></p>	<p>1.1 Identify the different types of pathogenic organisms that cause infection</p> <p>1.2 Define Infection, Colonisation and Infestation</p> <p>1.3 Describe the common diseases found in a workplace setting</p> <p>1.4 Outline the chain of infection</p> <p>1.5 Outline the standard/universal procedures for infection prevention and control</p> <p>1.6 Describe how to break the chain of infection using standard precautions and procedures</p> <p>1.7 Outline the controls to prevent the spread of coronavirus and other respiratory infections</p>
<p><b>2. Understand the importance of correct hand washing procedures for infection prevention and control</b></p>	<p>2.1 Explain the importance of hand washing for the prevention and control of infection</p> <p>2.2 Identify the appropriate facilities and equipment for correct hand washing</p> <p>2.3 Identify when individuals are expected to wash their hands and the correct procedure that they should follow</p> <p>2.4 Describe the correct procedure for use of hand sanitisers and their limitations</p>
<p><b>3. Understand the principles of personal protective equipment (PPE) used in infection prevention and control</b></p>	<p>3.1 Outline which Personal Protective Equipment should be worn for different risks</p> <p>3.2 Identify the responsibilities of employees and employers relating to the use of PPE</p>
<p><b>4. Understand the decontamination process</b></p>	<p>4.1 Define contamination and decontamination</p> <p>4.2 Outline the difference between the three levels of Decontamination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleaning</li> <li>• Disinfection</li> <li>• Sterilisation</li> </ul> <p>4.3 Outline the correct cleaning methods and different types of chemicals used in the decontamination process</p>

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria
<i>The learner will</i>	<i>The learner can</i>
	4.4 Outline the correct decontamination methods used in the disinfection process 4.5 Describe how to handle linen in order to prevent the spread of infection
<b>5. Understand waste management procedures and the associated risks</b>	5.1 Explain why waste management is important 5.2 Describe how to manage different types of waste and the risks associated with the different types of waste 5.3 Describe the procedure to deal with blood and bodily fluid spillages 5.4 Describe the correct procedure for the management of sharps
<b>6. Understand the roles and responsibilities in preventing infection</b>	6.1 Identify roles and responsibilities in preventing infections. 6.2 Identify the use of risk assessment in reducing the spread of infection.

Amplification
<p><b><u>AC 1.3 Describe the common diseases found in a workplace setting</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Common cold, flu and coronavirus, Gastroenteritis/Food Poisoning</li> </ul> <p>outline the significant infections in health and care settings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MRSA, C. diff, Norovirus, Gastroenteritis/Food poisoning (Salmonella, Campylobacter, E. coli, Listeria), Urinary Tract Infections (UTI'S)</li> <li>- common cold &amp; flu, Hep B, Athletes' Foot, Scabies</li> <li>- causes symptoms and prevention of the main healthcare associated infections                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o causes: low immunity, poor hygiene and infection control practice, poor equipment, lack of knowledge, lack of training of staff, inadequate policies and procedures.</li> <li>o Prevention: good infection control measures and practice, effective policies and procedures, training and education</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Recommendation: Any new/current issues arising in relation to this assessment criterion is recommended to be covered to provide up-to-date CPD and awareness within the sector. Unless identified within the Indicative content above it will not be assessed.</p> <p><b><u>AC 1.5 Outline the standard/universal procedures for infection prevention and control</u></b></p> <p>The teaching of standard precautions should include (WHO):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hand hygiene</li> <li>- USE of PPE</li> </ul>

- Respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette
- Environmental cleaning
- Equipment and furniture cleaning
- Linen management
- Waste disposal including sharps management and disposal

**AC 3.1 Outline which Personal Protective Equipment should be worn for different risks**

- Apron and gloves
- prevent contamination with chemicals
- use of apron and gloves in managing body fluids,
- Face/eye protection to prevent contact with mucus

**AC 5.2 and 5.3 Describe how to manage different types of waste**

Transportation of waste, hidden hazards – sharps in bedding, spillages and cross infection