FSOB | Footprint School of Business

Student Prospectus

Your Pathway to Higher Education, Professional Skills and Global Opportunities



Recognised Qualifications | University Progression | Flexible Study Options | Career Development | Global Opportunities

STUDENT PROSPECTUS & UNIVERSITY PROGRESSION GUIDE

2026–2027 edition · OTHM and NCFE qualifications · Study online from anywhere

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WELCOME

Your next step starts here

Whether you have just finished school, want to move up at work, or are ready for a master's, a suitable qualification can help you build knowledge and prepare for further opportunities.

At Footprint School of Business (FSOB), you study recognised UK qualifications from the awarding organisations **OTHM** and **NCFE**, online and at your own pace, wherever you live. Our diplomas run from Level 3 to Level 7, and many are recognised by universities for entry to Year 1, Year 2, the final year or an MBA top-up.

This prospectus is built around the questions students ask us most: *Which course is right for me? Where can it lead? How long will it take? What will it cost?* We answer them honestly, with real course details, real fees and the university routes published for each exact qualification.

We look forward to helping you take your next step.

The FSOB Admissions Team



Study online · Recognised UK qualifications · Explore published university pathways

12	Multiple	Routes	£400
OTHM diplomas, Level 3 to Level 7	subject-area courses	to universities and degree programmes	starting price for an OTHM diploma

THREE WAYS TO READ THIS PROSPECTUS

1 Discover
In ten minutes: what we offer and which courses suit you.
Start Here, Parts 1 and 4

2 Compare
Shortlisted a course? Read its full profile: units, fees, careers, universities.
Parts 3 and 5

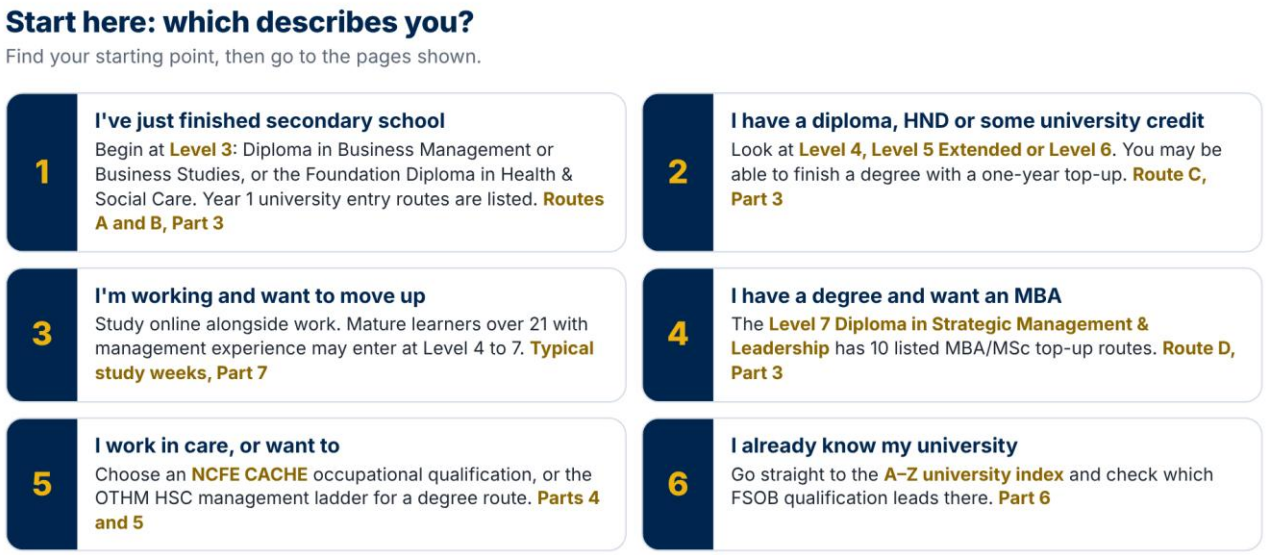
3 Confirm
Ready to enrol? Check exact university requirements and next steps.
Parts 6 and 9

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Start here: find your route in one minute

Pick the description closest to you. Each one points you to the pages that matter most for your decision.



Featured study routes

If your goal is…	Start with	Then	Typical university entry
A UK bachelor's degree, straight from school	Level 3 Diploma in Business Management (1 year, £550)	Apply to university	Year 1
A degree with a potential final-year university route	Level 3 Diploma, then Level 5 Extended Diploma (2 years, £1,300)	One-year top-up	Final year / top-up
To finish a degree you started	Level 5 or Level 5 Extended Diploma (with credit for prior study)	Top-up degree	Final year / top-up
An MBA	Level 7 Diploma in Strategic Management & Leadership (1 year, £900)	MBA top-up	MBA final stage
A health and social care degree	Level 5 Extended Diploma in HSC Management (2 years, £1,300)	Top-up or Year 3	Final year / top-up
A job or promotion in care	NCFE CACHE Level 2–5 care qualifications (from £300)	Career progression	Career-focused

Fees are our published prices on 2 November 2026. Each university makes its own admission decisions, and Part 6 shows you how to check yours.

PART 1

Discover FSOB

Who we are, why students choose us, and how you can check every claim we make.

About Footprint School of Business

Footprint School of Business (FSOB) is a UK-based education and training provider. We deliver regulated qualifications from two UK awarding organisations, **OTHM** and **NCFE** (including NCFE CACHE), across business and management, health and social care, education and training, and digital skills.



Our students study online, so they can learn from home, alongside work or family, in the UK or anywhere in the world. Many of our courses offer live tutor-led classes; others are self-paced with tutor support. When you complete your course, the awarding organisation issues your certificate, so the relevant awarding organisation awards your qualification upon successful completion.

We have offices in **Leeds** and **London**, and our admissions team is available Monday to Friday, 08:00 to 20:00 (UK time), by phone, WhatsApp or email.

Why students choose FSOB

01

Recognised UK qualifications

OTHM and NCFE are regulated by Ofqual, the qualifications regulator for England. Every qualification number in this prospectus can be checked on the official Register.

02

A clear route to a degree or MBA

OTHM publishes university progression routes for our diplomas, from Year 1 entry to MBA top-ups, at named universities and institutions.

03

Study online, anywhere

Learn from home on our platform, using your phone, tablet or laptop, at times that suit you.

04

Affordable, published fees

OTHM diplomas start from £400 and every fee is published. Studying Levels 4–5 with us may support entry to a one-year degree top-up where the receiving university confirms eligibility.

05

Real people supporting you

Tutor-led classes on many courses, tutor feedback on your work, and admissions guidance for students considering further study.

06

Honest guidance

We show you exactly which universities list your exact qualification, what conditions apply, and what to do if your first choice says no.

What our learners say

Our website publishes learner feedback and ratings for individual programmes. Visit the relevant course page to see current reviews and how many ratings have been submitted.

Who does what: FSOB, the awarding organisation and the university

Three organisations play a part in your journey. Knowing who is responsible for what helps you make safe decisions and ask the right questions.

FSOB

YOUR LEARNING PROVIDER

- Admits you to the course and checks you are ready
- Teaches, supports and gives feedback
- Assesses your work and quality-assures it
- Registers you with the awarding organisation
- Guides your progression plans

OTHM or NCFE

THE AWARDING ORGANISATION

- Designs the qualification and its units
- Approves us as a centre
- Externally verifies assessment
- Issues your certificate
- Publishes university progression routes (OTHM)

The university

YOUR NEXT DESTINATION

- Sets entry requirements for each degree
- Decides which year you can enter
- Asks for English, documents and grades
- Makes the admission decision
- Issues your degree

Check us independently

We welcome you to check everything in this prospectus. Before you enrol, you can confirm:

What to check	Where to check it
That FSOB is an approved OTHM centre	OTHM centre listing: othm.org.uk/listingcenter?cn=DC2610074
That a qualification is regulated, and its exact title, level and credits	Ofqual Register of Regulated Qualifications: register.ofqual.gov.uk (search the qualification number, e.g. 603/7795/1)
The OTHM university routes for your qualification	OTHM University Progressions: othm.org.uk/university-progression
A university's current entry requirements	The university's own course page and admissions team

What to check	Where to check it
Our fees, course formats and contact details	fsob.co.uk and fsob.co.uk/contact-us

Our promise on accuracy

The directory summarises named OTHM progression listings and identifies additional conditions or further-study stages where recorded. Check the exact programme and intake with the receiving institution. Universities, governments and employers make their own decisions on places, visas and jobs, so we give you clear information and work with you to plan your route and check each requirement.

PART 2

Understand qualifications and university entry

Levels, credits and entry stages explained in plain English, so you can compare any qualification with confidence.

The qualification ladder

A qualification level indicates the complexity of learning. Credits indicate the total volume of learning: one UK qualification credit represents ten hours of total qualification time. A 120-credit qualification therefore represents approximately 1,200 hours of learning. Universities evaluate qualifications and prior study against the entry requirements of each degree.

The qualification ladder: where FSOB courses sit

UK regulated qualification levels compared with familiar school and university stages (Ofqual / GOV.UK level descriptors).



LEVEL TELLS YOU HOW HARD

A Level 5 diploma is set at the same level as the second year of a UK degree. Its length depends on its credit value.

CREDITS TELL YOU HOW BIG

A 60-credit Level 3 diploma is half the size of a 120-credit one. Universities often look at both.

TITLE TELLS YOU WHAT

Universities list exact titles. A Level 5 Diploma and a Level 5 Extended Diploma are different qualifications.

University entry stages explained

University progression listings specify possible entry stages, such as Year 1, Year 2, final-year entry or a top-up programme. Admission teams assess grades, completed credits, prior qualifications and any additional programme conditions.

Entry stage	What it means for you	Typical FSOB qualification
Year 1	You start a three-year UK bachelor's degree from the beginning.	Level 3 diplomas
Year 2 (advanced entry)	You join in the second year and complete the degree in two years.	Level 4 diplomas
Year 3 / final year	You join the final year of a full degree and graduate after one year.	Level 5 Extended Diplomas
Top-up degree	A one-year course designed for diploma holders, leading to a full honours degree.	Level 5 and Level 5 Extended Diplomas
Stage 2 / Semester 3	A university's own name for a stage of its degree. Ask the university how it compares with UK Year 2.	Level 4–5 (UCD Singapore, Swiss Education Group)
MBA / master's top-up	The final stage of a master's, often a dissertation of about 60 credits.	Level 7 Diploma

Three rules that protect your plans

1. **Match the exact title.** OTHM lists each university route against an exact qualification title, such as the Level 5 Extended Diploma. Each profile in Part 5 shows the routes for that qualification.
2. **Check the exact degree.** Some listings cover a whole faculty or "all undergraduate programmes". Always confirm your chosen degree on the university's course page.
3. **Prepare for the full entry requirements.** Universities often ask for English language evidence, GCSE-level English and maths, a personal statement or work experience. See "What universities usually ask for" in Part 6.

> **Good to know: English and maths**
>
> Many UK universities ask for English and maths at GCSE grade 4 (C) or an accepted equivalent. We offer **NCFE Functional Skills English and Mathematics** from Entry Level to Level 2 (from £100). Some universities accept Level 2 Functional Skills; check your course page before you enrol.

PART 3

Plan your journey

Four common routes, the time and money each one really takes, a worked example and a Plan B.

Four routes to your goal

ROUTE A

School to Year 1 of a degree

For school leavers who want the traditional degree experience.

1. Level 3 Diploma in Business Management (1 year) or Business Studies (6 months)
2. Apply for Year 1 of a listed degree
3. Three years at university

ROUTE B

School to a degree with a potential final-year university route

For students who want to keep costs down and study from home for longer.

1. Level 3 Diploma (1 year)
2. Level 5 Extended Diploma (2 years, online)
3. One-year top-up or final year at university

ROUTE C

Finish a degree you started

For holders of a Level 4 diploma, HNC/HND or university credits.

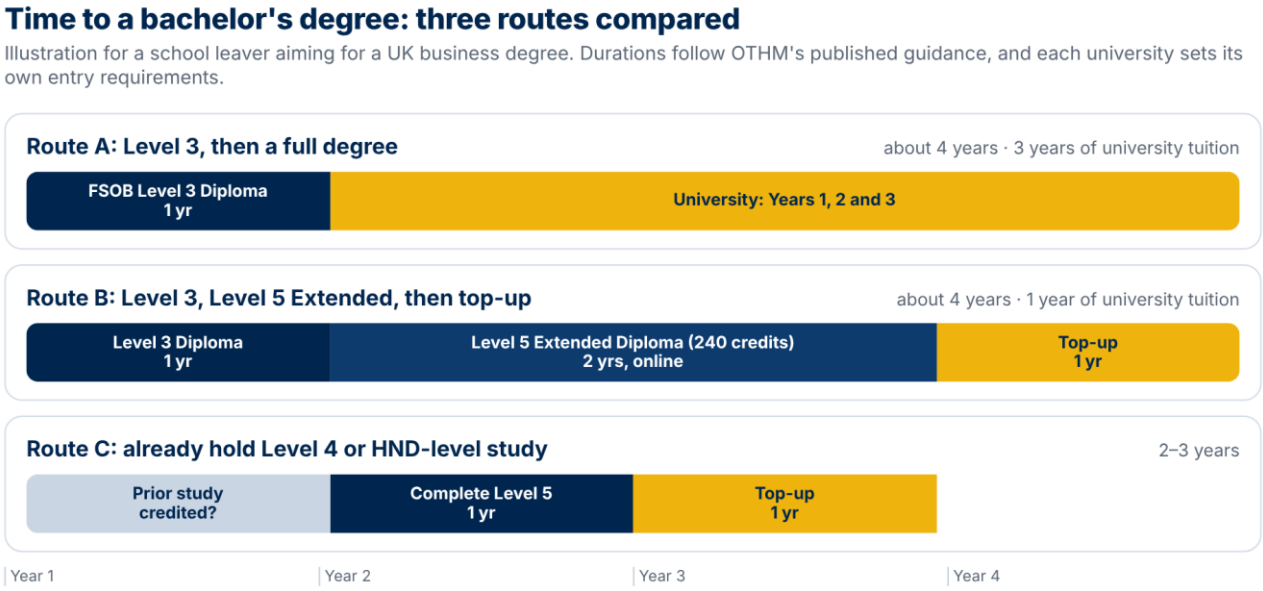
1. We review your transcripts with you
2. Level 5 Diploma or complete the Extended Diploma
3. Top-up degree

ROUTE D

Graduate or manager to MBA

For degree holders, Level 6 holders and experienced managers aged 21+.

1. Level 7 Diploma in Strategic Management and Leadership (1 year)
2. Choose optional units to suit your target MBA
3. MBA top-up (dissertation stage)



Worked example: Amara's journey

Amara is an illustrative student. The courses, fees and university routes in her story are real and published (November 2026).

Stage	What Amara does	Time	FSOB fee
Where she starts	Amara, 18, has just finished secondary school in Lagos with her WAEC results. She wants a UK business degree and wants to keep her international tuition fees as low as possible.		
1. Plans with FSOB	She talks to our admissions team, who check her certificates, explain Routes A and B and give her the plan in writing.	1 week	Free
2. Level 3	OTHM Level 3 Diploma in Business Management (603/7795/1), studied online from home.	12 months	£550
3. Levels 4–5	OTHM Level 5 Extended Diploma in Business Management (610/0335/9), 240 credits, still from home. She improves her English and takes an English test her chosen university accepts.	24 months	£1,460
4. Chooses a university	She shortlists three listed top-ups, e.g. University of Greater Manchester BSc (Hons) Business Management (top-up), University of Law BSc (Hons) Business Management (top-up) and Arden University BA (Hons) Business Management (top-up), and checks each course page.	During year 3	—
5. Applies	She sends her certificate, unit transcript, English results and personal statement. If she will study in the UK, she checks Student visa rules on GOV.UK.		—

Stage	What Amara does	Time	FSOB fee
6. Graduates	One year of top-up study leads to her honours degree.	12 months	University fee

4 years school to honours degree, the same as Route A	**£1,850** total FSOB fees for Levels 3–5	**1 year** of university tuition (Route A: 3 years)	**3 years** studied from home before she relocates

Amara's Plan B

If her first-choice university turns her down, the Extended Diploma gives her additional published routes to investigate, in the UK, Ireland, Singapore, Hong Kong and Malta. She can also progress to the Level 6 Diploma with FSOB while she reapplies.

Your time and cost planner

Your investment covers the whole journey: your FSOB course, any tests, university tuition and, if you relocate, living costs. Use this planner to estimate it before you commit. Ask our admissions team about the information needed to complete it.

Cost	What to find out	Where to check	Your estimate
FSOB course fee	Published price, what it includes, payment options	fsob.co.uk course page; ask us for a written quote	£
Further FSOB study	Any next level you need before university	Part 5 profiles	£
English test	Which tests and scores your university accepts	University course page	£
English / maths	GCSE-equivalent requirement; Functional Skills if needed	University course page; Part 4	£
Application	Application fees and deposits	University or UCAS	£
University tuition	Fee per year × number of years	University fees page	£
Visa and health surcharge	If you will study in another country	GOV.UK (UK) or destination government	£
Living and travel	Accommodation, food, transport, flights	University cost-of-living pages	£
Total			£

Time planner

Step	Typical duration (OTHM guidance)	Your plan
Level 3 Diploma in Business Studies	6 months	
Level 3 Diploma (Business Management / HSC Foundation)	1 year	
Level 4, Level 5 or Level 6 Diploma	1 year each	
Level 5 Extended Diploma (Levels 4 + 5)	2 years	
Level 7 Diploma	1 year	
Top-up degree / final year	Usually 1 year	
Full bachelor's from Year 1	3 years (4 in Scotland)	

Part-time study takes longer than these guide durations; a working adult studying around 14 hours a week typically needs about 18 months for a 120-credit diploma. Ask us about the schedule for your course.

Plan B: if your first choice says no

Successful students plan a second option from the start. Your FSOB qualification stays with you and keeps its value for every application you make.

- **Ask for feedback.** Find out which requirement to strengthen.
- **Apply elsewhere.** Most of our diplomas have several listed universities; see the A–Z index in Part 6.
- **Try a related degree.** A business diploma can also lead to marketing, HRM, finance, tourism or enterprise degrees listed for it.
- **Strengthen your application.** Add an English test, Functional Skills maths or work experience.
- **Keep progressing.** Move to the next FSOB level, which opens later entry points and more listings.
- **Talk to us. We will help you build a new plan and explain the available next steps.**

Seven steps to a confident decision



Our admissions team will work through each step with you, free of charge and before you pay. At the end you will have a written summary of your course, fees, schedule and progression plan.

Questions to ask before you enrol

- Is this the exact qualification title and level I need?
- How is the course delivered: live classes, recorded lessons or self-paced?
- What is the full fee, and what does it include?
- Can I pay in instalments?
- Which universities list this exact qualification for my degree?
- What else will the university ask for?
- What happens if I fall behind or need a break?
- What are your refund and complaints policies?

PART 4

Find your qualification

Our OTHM diplomas and NCFE qualifications, with levels, credits, durations and published fees in one place.

OTHM diplomas: business and health and social care

OTHM qualifications are designed for academic and career progression and carry published university routes. Prices are the published FSOB fees on 2 November 2026.

BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

Qualification	Level	Credits	Duration	Fee	University routes	Page
Level 3 Diploma in Business Studies	3	60	6 months	£400	5 listed	17
Level 3 Diploma in Business Management	3	120	1 year	£550	4 listed	18
Level 4 Diploma in Business Management	4	120	1 year	£660	9 listed	19
Level 5 Diploma in Business Management	5	120	1 year	£800	7 listed	20
Level 5 Extended Diploma in Business Management ★	5	240	2 years	£1,460	21 listed	21
Level 6 Diploma in Business Management	6	120	1 year	£800	2 listed	23
Level 7 Diploma in Strategic Management and Leadership ★	7	120	1 year	£900	10 listed	24

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE MANAGEMENT

Qualification	Level	Credits	Duration	Fee	University routes	Page
Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Health and Social Care	3	60	1 year	£500	2 listed	26
Level 4 Diploma in Health and Social Care Management	4	120	1 year	£600	Via next level	27

Qualification	Level	Credits	Duration	Fee	University routes	Page
Level 5 Diploma in Health and Social Care Management	5	120	1 year	£700	1 listed	28
Level 5 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care Management ★	5	240	2 years	£1,300	5 listed	29
Level 6 Diploma in Health and Social Care Management	6	120	1 year	£800	Via next level	30

★ Featured university progression route. "Listed" counts include routes with conditions and routes by individual assessment; see each profile.

Which OTHM diploma suits your goal?

My goal	Business	Health and social care
Year 1 of a degree	Level 3 Business Management or Business Studies	Level 3 Foundation Diploma
Year 2 of a degree	Level 4 Diploma	Level 4 Diploma, then continue to Level 5
Final year or top-up	Level 5 Extended Diploma (most routes) or Level 5 Diploma	Level 5 Extended Diploma
Master's or MBA	Level 6 Diploma, then Level 7	Level 6 Diploma, then a Level 7 diploma
Promotion at work	Level 4–7 by experience	Level 4–6, or NCFE CACHE Level 5 leadership

NCFE and NCFE CACHE qualifications

NCFE qualifications focus on the skills and knowledge for specific jobs and sectors. They are ideal for starting or progressing in care, education, business and digital work. They are designed for the workplace. If a degree is your goal, the OTHM diplomas include routes in OTHM's published progression directory, and we can check whether a university accepts your chosen NCFE qualification.

Prices on fsob.co.uk can change and some courses are offered in more than one format (for example, self-study and live tutor-led) at different prices. We confirm your fee in writing before you enrol.

ADULT CARE AND HEALTH

Qualification	Level	Fee
NCFE CACHE Level 2 Diploma in Care	2	£400
NCFE CACHE Level 2 NVQ in Health and Social Care	2	£300

Qualification	Level	Fee
NCFE CACHE Level 3 Award in Health and Social Care	3	£300
NCFE CACHE Level 3 Certificate in Health and Social Care	3	£500
NCFE CACHE Level 3 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care	3	£900
NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Adult Care	3	£600
NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Healthcare Support	3	£900
NCFE CACHE Level 3 Certificate in Understanding Mental Health	3	£300
NCFE CACHE Level 3 Award in Supporting Individuals with Learning Disabilities	3	£300
NCFE CACHE Level 4 Diploma in Adult Care	4	£700
NCFE CACHE Level 5 Diploma in Leadership and Management for Adult Care	5	£800
NCFE CACHE Level 5 Diploma in Leadership for Health and Social Care and Children and Young People's Services (England)	5	£1,200

Working in adult care in England?

The **NCFE CACHE Level 5 Diploma in Leadership and Management for Adult Care** is the qualification widely expected for registered managers of adult care services in England. Level 2 to 4 Adult Care diplomas build the steps towards it.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Qualification	Level	Fee
NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma for Residential Childcare	3	£1,000
NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma for the Children and Young People's Workforce (England): Social Care	3	£900
NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma for the Children and Young People's Workforce (England): Learning, Development and Support Services	3	£900
NCFE CACHE Level 5 Diploma in Leadership and Management for Residential Childcare (England)	5	£1,200

EDUCATION, TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT

Qualification	Level	Fee
NCFE CACHE Level 3 Award / Certificate / Diploma in Supporting Teaching and Learning	3	£300 / £600 / £1,000
NCFE Level 3 Award in Understanding the Principles and Practices of Assessment	3	£150
NCFE Level 3 Award in Assessing Competence in the Work Environment	3	£255

Qualification	Level	Fee
Level 3 Award in Assessing Vocationally Related Achievement	3	£255
Level 3 Certificate in Assessing Vocational Achievement	3	£300
NCFE Level 4 Award in Understanding the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice	4	£150
NCFE Level 4 Award in the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice	4	£300
NCFE Level 4 Certificate in Leading the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice	4	£360

BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT SKILLS

Qualification	Level	Fee
NCFE Level 3 Diploma in Skills for Business (self-study, or live tutor-led)	3	£400 / £1,000
NCFE Level 3 Diploma in Skills for Business: Retail · Sales and Marketing · Human Resources	3	£500
NCFE Level 3 Diploma in Business Skills: Enterprise	3	£500
NCFE Level 3 Diploma in Management Skills and Knowledge	3	£400

DIGITAL AND CYBER SECURITY

Qualification	Level	Fee
NCFE Level 3 Certificate in Cyber Security Practices (tutor-led)	3	£1,000
NCFE Level 3 Technical Occupational Entry in Digital Support: Digital Service Technician	3	£500 / £1,200 tutor-led
NCFE Level 3 Technical Occupational Entry in Digital Support: Digital Application Technician	3	£500 / £1,200 tutor-led

ENGLISH AND MATHS (FUNCTIONAL SKILLS)

Qualification	Level	Fee
NCFE Functional Skills English: Entry Levels 1–3	E1–E3	£100–£135
NCFE Functional Skills Mathematics: Entry Level 3	E3	£135
NCFE Functional Skills English or Mathematics: Level 1	1	£150
NCFE Functional Skills English or Mathematics: Level 2	2	£180

SHORT SINGLE-UNIT COURSES (UNITCACHE)

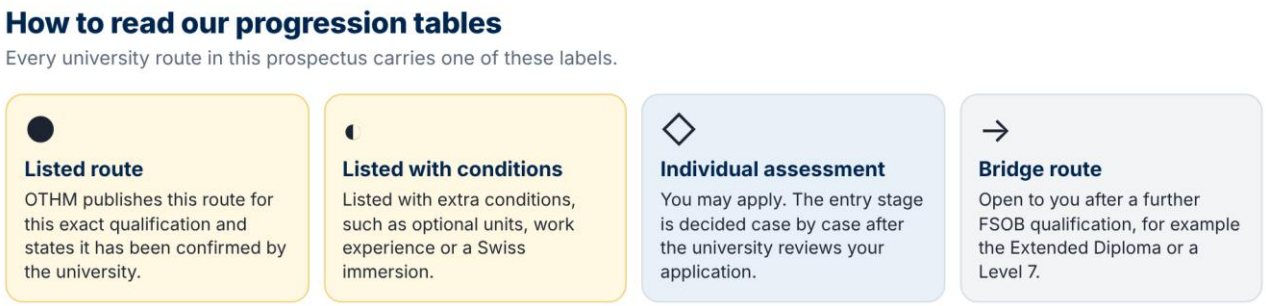
Qualification	Level	Fee
Topics include dementia, stress, safeguarding, mental capacity, infection prevention, employment law, internet and relationship marketing, team management	2–5	from £35

PART 5

Qualification profiles

Twelve OTHM diplomas, each with the same layout so you can compare: who it is for, what you study, what it costs and exactly where it can take you.

How to read a profile



The progression tables reflect OTHM's published university progression information. Individual acceptance, degree availability, fees and entry stages depend on each university's current admissions process. Confirm the exact route using OTHM's directory and the receiving university's official programme page. View OTHM university progressions



Business and management	Page	Health and social care management	Page
Level 3 Diploma in Business Studies	21	Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Health and Social Care	34
Level 3 Diploma in Business Management	23	Level 4 Diploma in Health and Social Care Management	36
Level 4 Diploma in Business Management	25	Level 5 Diploma in Health and Social Care Management	38
Level 5 Diploma in Business Management	27	Level 5 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care Management	39
Level 5 Extended Diploma in Business Management	29	Level 6 Diploma in Health and Social Care Management	41
Level 6 Diploma in Business Management	32		
Level 7 Diploma in Strategic Management and Leadership	33		

LEVEL 3

OTHM · BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

Level 3 Diploma in Business Studies

A focused introduction to business study: six focused units and a recognised Level 3 diploma in about six months.

CREDITS	DURATION	LEARNING HOURS	MINIMUM AGE	OFQUAL NO.	FSOB FEE
60	6 months	600 total	16+	603/2171/4	£400

IS IT FOR YOU?

- School leavers who want a short, focused start before university
- Learners returning to study who want to build confidence and academic skills
- Anyone exploring business before committing to a longer programme

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Open to learners aged 16 and over
- No formal entry qualifications are set by OTHM; we check that you are ready to study at Level 3
- Assessment is in English, so you need to read and write English confidently

HOW YOU ARE ASSESSED

Coursework of about 2,000 words per unit, marked Pass or Fail.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Four mandatory units plus two optional units, each 10 credits.

Core	Introduction to Research and Academic Skills
Core	Using IT for Business
Core	Introduction to Economics and Accounting
Core	Introduction to the Business Environment
Option	Introduction to Customer Service
Option	Managing Business Events
Option	Introduction to Marketing
Option	Introduction to People Management

ROLES IT CAN HELP PREPARE YOU FOR

Business or office administrator · Customer service adviser · Sales or marketing assistant · Junior team member in a growing business

WHERE IT CAN TAKE YOU

Next step with FSOB: Level 4 Diploma in Business Management, or Year 1 of a bachelor's degree.

Status	University	Degree or programme	Entry
● Listed	**Anglia Ruskin University (UK)**	BSc (Hons) Business and Healthcare Management; Business and Human Resource Management; Business and Law; Business and Tourism; Finance and Accounting; International Business Management; LLB (Hons) Law	Year 1
● Listed	**Bangor University (UK)**	BSc Business Management; Marketing; Accounting and Management; Banking and Finance; Accounting and Finance; Banking with Financial Technology; Economics; Economics and Finance	Year 1
● Listed	**Curtin University (Australia)**	Undergraduate programmes (listed as a whole; check your chosen degree)	Year 1
● Listed	**University of Greater Manchester (UK)**	BSc (Hons) Business Management	Year 1
● Listed	**University of Sunderland (UK)**	Undergraduate courses in the Faculty of Business, Law and Tourism (check your chosen degree)	Year 1

Good to know: This is a 60-credit diploma. Some universities ask for a full 120-credit Level 3 qualification, so if you are unsure, the Level 3 Diploma in Business Management may be the safer choice.

LEVEL 3

OTHM · BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

Level 3 Diploma in Business Management

A full 120-credit foundation in how businesses work, from finance and marketing to people and customers.

CREDITS	DURATION	LEARNING HOURS	MINIMUM AGE	OFQUAL NO.	FSOB FEE
120	1 year	1,200 total	16+	603/7795/1	£550

IS IT FOR YOU?

- School leavers (WAEC, SSCE, GCSEs or similar) aiming for a business degree
- Learners who want a full Level 3 qualification comparable in level to A levels
- Employees who want a recognised qualification in business

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Open to learners aged 16 and over
- No formal entry qualifications are set by OTHM; we check that you are ready to study at Level 3
- Assessment is in English

HOW YOU ARE ASSESSED

A portfolio of evidence of about 3,000 words per unit, marked Pass or Fail.

Inside the course: Our online course for this diploma is fully built on our learning platform: 7 topics, 52 lessons, 32 knowledge-check quizzes and 25 assignment activities, with diagrams and worked examples throughout.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Six mandatory units, each 20 credits.

Core	Communication for Business
Core	The Business Environment
Core	People Management
Core	Customer Service
Core	Finance in Business
Core	Marketing

ROLES IT CAN HELP PREPARE YOU FOR

Business administrator · Customer service or sales adviser · HR or marketing assistant · Trainee supervisor

WHERE IT CAN TAKE YOU

Next step with FSOB: Level 4 Diploma or Level 5 Extended Diploma in Business Management, or Year 1 of a bachelor's degree.

Status	University	Degree or programme	Entry
● Listed	**Bangor University (UK)**	BSc Business Management; Marketing; Accounting and Management; Banking and Finance; Accounting and Finance; Banking with Financial Technology; Economics; Economics and Finance	Year 1
● Listed	**De Montfort University (UK)**	BA (Hons) International Tourism and Hospitality Management	Year 1

● Listed	**University of Greater Manchester (UK)**	BSc (Hons) Business Management	Year 1
● Listed	**University of Law (UK)**	Undergraduate business course	Year 1

Preparing your university application

For the named Year 1 degree routes, compare each programme's entry requirements, accepted school-leaving results and English-language criteria. Ask the university whether your complete academic record meets its admissions conditions for your preferred intake.

Before applying, prepare your qualification certificate or expected-results letter, unit transcript, previous academic records and any documents requested by the receiving university. Our progression directory provides the starting point for these checks.

LEVEL 4

OTHM · BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

Level 4 Diploma in Business Management

University Year 1 level study in business, with published Year 2 entry routes at selected universities, subject to their admissions requirements.

CREDITS	DURATION	LEARNING HOURS	MINIMUM AGE	OFQUAL NO.	FSOB FEE
120	1 year	1,200 total	18+	610/0763/8	£660

IS IT FOR YOU?

- Holders of a Level 3 diploma, A levels or equivalent
- Working adults over 21 with management experience
- Learners who want to enter Year 2 of a UK degree

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Typically aged 18 or over
- A relevant Level 3 diploma, 2 A levels or equivalent, or
- Mature learners over 21 with relevant management experience (we confirm this with you)
- Evidence of English, if it is your second language

HOW YOU ARE ASSESSED

Coursework for each unit, marked Pass or Fail.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Six mandatory units, each 20 credits.

Core	Academic Writing and Research Skills
Core	Business Operations
Core	Communication in Business
Core	Finance and Accounting
Core	Leading and Managing Teams
Core	Operating in a Global Context

ROLES IT CAN HELP PREPARE YOU FOR

Team leader or supervisor · Office or operations coordinator · Assistant manager · Business support officer

WHERE IT CAN TAKE YOU

Next step with FSOB: Level 5 Diploma, or complete the Level 5 Extended Diploma within three years by adding the Level 5 units.

Status	University	Degree or programme	Entry
Listed	**Bangor University (UK)**	BSc (Hons) Business Management	Year 2
Listed	**Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh (UK)**	BA (Hons) Business Management	Year 2
Listed	**Sheffield Hallam University (UK)**	BA (Hons) Business and Management; BA (Hons) Business and Enterprise Management	Year 2
Listed	**University of Sunderland (UK)**	BA (Hons) Business and Management; Business and Marketing Management; Business and Human Resource Management	Year 2
Listed	**University of Sunderland in Hong Kong**	BA (Hons) Business and Management (100% online or full-time)	Year 2

◐ Listed with conditions	**Swiss Education Group: Swiss Hotel Management School (Switzerland)**	BA International Hospitality Management	Semester 3, Year 3 (OTHM wording)
● Listed	**University College Dublin, Singapore**	Bachelor of Business Studies (Honours)	Stage 2
◇ Individual assessment	**César Ritz Colleges (Switzerland)**	BSc Hotel and Tourism Management	On application
◇ Individual assessment	**HIM Montreux (Switzerland)**	Bachelor of Business Administration	On application

Good to know: Swiss Education Group routes include a 6-week Swiss Immersion. "Stage 2" is UCD Singapore's own term; ask the university how it compares with UK Year 2.

LEVEL 5

OTHM · BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

Level 5 Diploma in Business Management

Management-level study in strategy, people, marketing, law and finance, with listed top-up degree options that universities assess against programme requirements.

CREDITS	DURATION	LEARNING HOURS	MINIMUM AGE	OFQUAL NO.	FSOB FEE
120	1 year	1,200 total	18+	610/1527/1	£700

IS IT FOR YOU?

- Holders of a Level 4 diploma or equivalent
- Managers over 21 who want a recognised Level 5 qualification
- Learners planning a one-year top-up degree

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Typically aged 18 or over
- A relevant Level 4 diploma, 3 A levels or equivalent, or
- Mature learners over 21 with relevant management experience
- Evidence of English, if it is your second language

HOW YOU ARE ASSESSED

Coursework of about 3,000 words per unit; two units include a 10-minute presentation. Pass or Fail.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Six mandatory units, each 20 credits.

Core	Principles and Concepts of Strategy
Core	The Management of Human Resources
Core	Marketing for Managers
Core	Business Law for Managers
Core	Management Accounting and Decision Making
Core	Business Start-up: Conception to Market

ROLES IT CAN HELP PREPARE YOU FOR

Assistant or deputy manager · HR, marketing or finance officer · Small-business owner · Project coordinator

WHERE IT CAN TAKE YOU

Next step with FSOB: Level 6 Diploma in Business Management, or a top-up degree.

Status	University	Degree or programme	Entry
● Listed	**University of Greater Manchester (UK)**	BSc (Hons) Business Management (top-up)	Top-up
● Listed	**University of Westminster (UK)**	BA (Hons) Global Trade and Business (top-up)	Top-up
● Listed	**University of Law (UK)**	BSc (Hons) Business Management (top-up)	Top-up (final year)
◐ Listed with conditions	**Swiss Education Group: Swiss Hotel Management School (Switzerland)**	BA International Hospitality Management (Hospitality / Hospitality & Events)	Year 3
● Listed	**University College Dublin, Singapore**	Bachelor of Business Studies (Honours)	Stage 2
◇ Individual assessment	**César Ritz Colleges (Switzerland)**	BSc Hotel and Tourism Management	On application

◇ **Individual assessment**	**HIM Montreux (Switzerland)**	Bachelor of Business Administration	On application

Good to know: Many more top-up routes are listed for the 240-credit Level 5 Extended Diploma. If a degree is your goal, compare both before you enrol.

LEVEL 5

OTHM · BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT ★ FEATURED PATHWAY

Level 5 Extended Diploma in Business Management

Explore a broad range of published degree pathways: Levels 4 and 5 in one programme, with 19 listings for final-year and top-up entry.

CREDITS	DURATION	LEARNING HOURS	MINIMUM AGE	OFQUAL NO.	FSOB FEE
240	2 years	2,400 total	18+	610/0335/9	£1,300

IS IT FOR YOU?

- Learners with a Level 3 diploma or A levels who want to finish a degree with a potential final-year university route
- Working adults who want to study the first two years of a degree online
- Students comparing the cost of a full three-year degree

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Typically aged 18 or over
- A relevant Level 3 diploma, 2 A levels or equivalent, or
- Mature learners over 21 with relevant management experience
- Evidence of English, if it is your second language

HOW YOU ARE ASSESSED

Coursework for each unit, marked Pass or Fail.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Twelve mandatory units (six at Level 4 and six at Level 5), each 20 credits.

L4	Academic Writing and Research Skills
L4	Business Operations
L4	Communication in Business
L4	Finance and Accounting
L4	Leading and Managing Teams
L4	Operating in a Global Context
L5	Principles and Concepts of Strategy
L5	The Management of Human Resources
L5	Marketing for Managers
L5	Business Law for Managers
L5	Management Accounting and Decision Making
L5	Business Start-up: Conception to Market

ROLES IT CAN HELP PREPARE YOU FOR

Assistant manager or department supervisor · HR, marketing, operations or finance officer · Entrepreneur or small-business owner · Graduate-level roles after a top-up degree

WHERE IT CAN TAKE YOU

Next step with FSOB: Final year (Year 3) or a top-up degree, or the Level 6 Diploma in Business Management.

Status	University	Degree or programme	Entry
● Listed	**Arden University (UK)**	BA (Hons) Business Management (top-up), with HRM, Marketing and Tourism pathways	Top-up
● Listed	**Bangor University (UK)**	BSc (Hons) Business Management (top-up)	Top-up
● Listed	**Coventry University through PSB Academy (Singapore)**	BA (Hons) Global Business (top-up); BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance for International Business (top-up)	Top-up

● Listed	**De Montfort University (UK)**	BA (Hons) International Business; Business Management; Business and Marketing	Year 3
● Listed	**De Montfort University (UK)**	BA (Hons) International Tourism and Hospitality Management (top-up)	Top-up
● Listed	**Dublin Business School (Ireland)**	BA (Hons) in Business (Management)	Year 3
● Listed	**London Graduate School (Malta)**	BA (Hons) Business Management (top-up)	Top-up
● Listed	**Northumbria University (UK)**	BA (Hons) Business and Management (Distance Learning); Fashion Business; BSc (Hons) Global Business Management and pathways (all top-up)	Top-up
◐ Listed with conditions	**Sheffield Hallam University (UK)**	BA (Hons) Business Management; International Business with Management; International Business with Finance (all top-up)	Top-up
◐ Listed with conditions	**Swiss Education Group: Swiss Hotel Management School (Switzerland)**	BA International Hospitality Management (Hospitality / Hospitality & Events)	Year 3
● Listed	**University College Birmingham (UK)**	BA (Hons) Business Management (top-up); BA (Hons) Business Enterprise (top-up)	Top-up
● Listed	**University College Dublin, Singapore**	Bachelor of Business Studies (Honours)	Stage 2
● Listed	**University of Greater Manchester (UK)**	BSc (Hons) Business Management (top-up) with Supply Chain, Marketing, Information Systems, Retail and other pathways	Top-up
● Listed	**University of Staffordshire (UK)**	BSc Business Management (top-up)	Top-up
● Listed	**University of Sunderland (UK)**	BA (Hons) Business Management and Entrepreneurship (top-up)	Top-up
● Listed	**University of Sunderland (UK)**	BA (Hons) Business and Management; Business and Marketing Management; Business and HRM	Year 3
● Listed	**University of Sunderland in Hong Kong**	BA (Hons) Business and Management (top-up); Business and Marketing Management (top-up)	Year 3
● Listed	**University of Westminster (UK)**	BA (Hons) Global Trade and Business (top-up)	Top-up
● Listed	**University of the Highlands and Islands (UK)**	BA (Hons) Business and Management	Year 3

● Listed	**University of Law (UK)**	BSc (Hons) Business Management (top-up)	Top-up (final year)
◇ Individual assessment	**César Ritz Colleges / HIM Montreux (Switzerland)**	BSc Hotel and Tourism Management; Bachelor of Business Administration	On application

Good to know: Sheffield Hallam's top-up asks for evidence of significant work experience. Swiss Education Group routes include a 6-week Swiss Immersion. London Graduate School (Malta) offers its top-up through an online learning platform, so you can study it from anywhere.

LEVEL 6

OTHM · BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

Level 6 Diploma in Business Management

Bachelor's-level study in leadership, operations, finance and sustainability, with a research project of your own.

CREDITS	DURATION	LEARNING HOURS	MINIMUM AGE	OFQUAL NO.	FSOB FEE
120	1 year	1,200 total	18+	603/2179/9	£800

IS IT FOR YOU?

- Holders of a Level 5 diploma, HND or equivalent
- Managers over 21 who want degree-level recognition of their skills
- Learners preparing for a Level 7 diploma or master's study

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Aged 18 or over at the start of the course
- A relevant Level 5 diploma or equivalent, or
- Mature learners over 21 with management experience
- Evidence of English, if it is your second language

HOW YOU ARE ASSESSED

Coursework in varied formats (reports, presentations, executive summaries), marked Pass or Fail.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Six mandatory units, each 20 credits.

Core	Leadership and People Management
Core	Business Research Project
Core	Operations Management
Core	Financial Decision Making
Core	Sustainable Business Practices
Core	Strategic Human Resource Management

ROLES IT CAN HELP PREPARE YOU FOR

Operations or department manager · Business analyst · HR or project manager · Business owner or consultant

WHERE IT CAN TAKE YOU

Next step with FSOB: Level 7 Diploma in Strategic Management and Leadership, or a relevant master's degree.

Status	University	Degree or programme	Entry
● Listed	**London Graduate School (delivers partner-university awards)**	Master of Business Administration (MBA)	Postgraduate
◐ Listed with conditions	**Swiss Education Group: Swiss Hotel Management School (Switzerland)**	SHMS Postgraduate Diploma + internship, leading to MA International Hospitality Business Management or MSc International Hospitality Management	Postgraduate diploma, then master's

Good to know: OTHM states this qualification makes learners eligible to apply for relevant master's programmes. Each university sets its own entry rules for diploma holders. For the London Graduate School MBA, ask which university awards the degree and whether a Level 7 stage comes first.

LEVEL **7**

OTHM · BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT ★ FEATURED PATHWAY

Level 7 Diploma in Strategic Management and Leadership

Master's-level strategy and leadership, and a recognised route to an MBA top-up at ten listed universities.

CREDITS	DURATION	LEARNING HOURS	MINIMUM AGE	OFQUAL NO.	FSOB FEE
120	1 year	1,200 total	21+	603/2181/7	£900

IS IT FOR YOU?

- Graduates and Level 6 diploma holders aiming for an MBA
- Experienced managers moving into senior or strategic roles

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Aged 21 or over at the start of the course
- An honours degree in a related subject, a UK Level 6 diploma or an equivalent overseas qualification, or
- Mature learners with management experience (we confirm this with you)
- Evidence of English, if it is your second language

HOW YOU ARE ASSESSED

Coursework of about 4,500 words per unit (Advanced Business Research Methods about 2,500). Pass or Fail.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Four mandatory units plus two optional units of your choice, each 20 credits.

Core	Strategic Management
Core	Strategic Leadership
Core	Strategic Human Resource Management
Core	Advanced Business Research Methods
Option	Strategic Financial Management
Option	Supply Chain and Operations Management
Option	Entrepreneurship and Innovation
Option	Globalisation and Corporate Governance
Option	Strategic Change Management
Option	Strategic Marketing

ROLES IT CAN HELP PREPARE YOU FOR

Senior manager or head of department · Director or general manager · Strategy, change or HR lead · Management consultant

Good to know: Cardiff Met requires the optional units Strategic Financial Management and Strategic Marketing.

WHERE IT CAN TAKE YOU

Next step with FSOB: An MBA or master's top-up, usually a dissertation stage of about 60 credits with the university.

Status	University	Degree or programme	Entry
● Listed	**Arden University (UK)**	MBA (top-up)	Top-up
◐ Listed with conditions	**Cardiff Metropolitan University (UK)**	MBA Advanced Entry (top-up)	Top-up
● Listed	**GlobalNxt University (Malaysia)**	Master of Business Administration (online)	Advanced standing

● Listed	**London Graduate School (UK)**	Master of Business Administration (top-up)	Top-up
● Listed	**Northumbria University (UK)**	MSc Strategic Leadership	On application
● Listed	**University of Northampton (UK)**	Master of Business Administration (Executive) (top-up)	Top-up
● Listed	**University of South Wales (UK)**	MBA	Advanced standing
● Listed	**University of Sunderland (UK)**	Master of Business Administration (Dissertation Only)	On application
● Listed	**Ulster University (UK)**	MBA / Executive MBA	On application
● Listed	**University of Greater Manchester (UK)**	MBA (top-up)	Top-up

Health and social care management: route map



Choosing between the Level 4 + Level 5 Diplomas and the Extended Diploma

Both cover the same twelve units over about two years. The **Extended Diploma** is the qualification OTHM lists for the health and social care top-up and Year 3 routes, so if a degree is your goal it is usually the better choice. If you prefer to commit one year at a time, you can start with the Level 4 Diploma and complete the Extended Diploma by adding the Level 5 units within three years.

LEVEL 3

OTHM · HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Health and Social Care

The foundations of caring work, from person-centred practice to safeguarding information, and a first step towards a degree.

CREDITS	DURATION	LEARNING HOURS	MINIMUM AGE	OFQUAL NO.	FSOB FEE
60	1 year	600 total	18+	603/6776/3	£500

IS IT FOR YOU?

- Adults starting a career in health or social care
- Care workers who want a recognised Level 3 qualification
- Learners planning a degree in health, social care or social sciences

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Open to learners aged 18 and over
- No formal entry qualifications are set by OTHM; we check that you are ready to study at Level 3
- Evidence of English, if it is your second language

HOW YOU ARE ASSESSED

A portfolio of evidence for each unit, marked Pass or Fail.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Six mandatory units, each 10 credits.

Core	Responsibilities of a Health and Social Care Worker
Core	Personal and Professional Development in Health and Social Care
Core	Effective Communication and Ethical Practice in Health and Social Care
Core	Health, Safety and Wellbeing in Health and Social Care Settings
Core	Person-centred Approaches in Health and Social Care Settings
Core	Effective Handling of Information in Health and Social Care Settings

ROLES IT CAN HELP PREPARE YOU FOR

Care assistant or support worker · Healthcare assistant (with employer training) · Community or residential care worker · Activities or wellbeing coordinator

WHERE IT CAN TAKE YOU

Next step with FSOB: Level 4 Diploma or Level 5 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care Management, or Year 1 of a degree.

Status	University	Degree or programme	Entry
● Listed	**Bangor University (UK)**	BA Sociology and Criminology and Criminal Justice; BA Sociology; BA Childhood and Youth Studies and Sociology	Year 1
● Listed	**University of Greater Manchester (UK)**	BSc (Hons) Health and Social Care	Year 1

LEVEL 4

OTHM · HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Level 4 Diploma in Health and Social Care Management

University Year 1 level study for people who lead, or want to lead, in care settings.

CREDITS	DURATION	LEARNING HOURS	MINIMUM AGE	OFQUAL NO.	FSOB FEE
120	1 year	1,200 total	18+	610/0784/5	£600

IS IT FOR YOU?

- Holders of a Level 3 qualification in care, or A levels
- Senior care workers moving towards supervision
- Learners building towards a health and social care degree

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Typically aged 18 or over
- A relevant Level 3 diploma, 2 A levels or equivalent, or
- Mature learners over 21 with relevant management experience
- Evidence of English, if it is your second language

HOW YOU ARE ASSESSED

Coursework of about 3,000 words per unit, marked Pass or Fail.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Six mandatory units, each 20 credits.

Core	Promoting Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in Health and Social Care
Core	Professional Development and Academic Writing Skills
Core	Communication in the Caring Professions
Core	Principles of Health and Safety for Health Professions
Core	Assessment Processes in Health and Social Care Settings
Core	Resource Management in Health and Social Care

ROLES IT CAN HELP PREPARE YOU FOR

Senior care worker · Team leader or shift lead · Care coordinator · Assistant to a care manager

WHERE IT CAN TAKE YOU

Next step with FSOB: Level 5 Diploma, or complete the Level 5 Extended Diploma within three years by adding the Level 5 units.

Status	University	Degree or programme	Entry
→ Bridge route	**University College Birmingham (UK)**	BSc (Hons) Health and Social Care (top-up)	Top-up, after the Extended Diploma
→ Bridge route	**University of Greater Manchester (UK)**	BSc (Hons) Health and Social Care (top-up)	Top-up, after the Extended Diploma
→ Bridge route	**University of Staffordshire (UK)**	Health and Social Care BSc (Hons)	Year 3, after the Extended Diploma

→ Bridge route	**University of Sunderland (UK)**	BSc (Hons) Health and Social Care (top-up)	Top-up, after the Extended Diploma
→ Bridge route	**University of the Highlands and Islands (UK)**	BA (Hons) Health and Social Studies	Year 3, after the Extended Diploma

Good to know: OTHM lists these degree routes for the Level 4 & 5 / Level 5 Extended Diploma. Complete the Level 5 units within three years to reach them.

LEVEL 5

OTHM · HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Level 5 Diploma in Health and Social Care Management

Management study for care leaders: partnership working, safeguarding, supervision and research.

CREDITS	DURATION	LEARNING HOURS	MINIMUM AGE	OFQUAL NO.	FSOB FEE
120	1 year	1,200 total	18+	610/1537/4	£700

IS IT FOR YOU?

- Holders of a Level 4 diploma or equivalent
- Care managers and deputies over 21
- Learners planning a top-up degree in health and social care

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Typically aged 18 or over
- A relevant Level 4 diploma, 3 A levels or equivalent, or
- Mature learners over 21 with relevant management experience
- Evidence of English, if it is your second language

HOW YOU ARE ASSESSED

Coursework of about 3,000 words per unit; Research Methods is a research project. Pass or Fail.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Six mandatory units, each 20 credits.

Core	Working in Partnership in Health and Social Care
Core	Managing the Safeguarding and Protection of Vulnerable Individuals
Core	Health Education and Promoting Wellbeing
Core	Team Management in Health and Social Care
Core	Professional Supervision Practice in Health and Social Care
Core	Research Methods in Health and Social Care

ROLES IT CAN HELP PREPARE YOU FOR

Deputy or unit manager · Care quality or safeguarding lead · Service coordinator · Supervisor in community services

WHERE IT CAN TAKE YOU

Next step with FSOB: Level 6 Diploma in Health and Social Care Management, or a top-up degree.

Status	University	Degree or programme	Entry
→ Bridge route	**University College Birmingham, Greater Manchester, Staffordshire, Sunderland, Highlands and Islands (UK)**	Health and social care top-up / Year 3 degrees (see Extended Diploma)	After the Extended Diploma
◇ **Individual assessment**	**Arden University (UK)**	BSc (Hons) Health and Care Management (top-up)	Top-up, assessed individually

Good to know: University top-up routes for health and social care are listed for the 240-credit Extended Diploma. If you hold the separate Level 4 Diploma, we can advise how to complete the Extended Diploma.

LEVEL **5**

OTHM · HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE ★ FEATURED PATHWAY

Level 5 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care Management

Levels 4 and 5 in one programme, and the qualification the health and social care top-up routes are listed for.

CREDITS	DURATION	LEARNING HOURS	MINIMUM AGE	OFQUAL NO.	FSOB FEE
240	2 years	2,400 total	18+	610/0333/5	£1,300

IS IT FOR YOU?

- Learners with a Level 3 qualification who want a health and social care degree
- Care professionals who want to study degree-level Years 1–2 online

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Typically aged 18 or over
- A relevant Level 3 diploma, 2 A levels or equivalent, or
- Mature learners over 21 with relevant management experience
- Evidence of English, if it is your second language

HOW YOU ARE ASSESSED

Coursework of about 3,000 words per unit; Research Methods is a research project. Pass or Fail.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Twelve mandatory units (six at Level 4 and six at Level 5), each 20 credits.

L4	Promoting Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in Health and Social Care
L4	Professional Development and Academic Writing
L4	Communication in the Caring Professions
L4	Principles of Health and Safety for Health Professions
L4	Assessment Processes in Health and Social Care Settings
L4	Resource Management in Health and Social Care
L5	Working in Partnership in Health and Social Care
L5	Managing the Safeguarding and Protection of Vulnerable Individuals
L5	Health Education and Promoting Wellbeing
L5	Team Management in Health and Social Care
L5	Professional Supervision Practice in Health and Social Care
L5	Research Methods in Health and Social Care

ROLES IT CAN HELP PREPARE YOU FOR

Deputy or unit manager · Care coordinator or team manager · Safeguarding or quality officer · Graduate roles after a top-up degree

WHERE IT CAN TAKE YOU

Next step with FSOB: Year 3 or a top-up degree, or the Level 6 Diploma in Health and Social Care Management.

Status	University	Degree or programme	Entry
● Listed	**University College Birmingham (UK)**	BSc (Hons) Health and Social Care (top-up)	Top-up

● Listed	**University of Greater Manchester (UK)**	BSc (Hons) Health and Social Care (top-up)	Top-up
● Listed	**University of Staffordshire (UK)**	Health and Social Care BSc (Hons)	Year 3
● Listed	**University of Sunderland (UK)**	BSc (Hons) Health and Social Care (top-up)	Top-up
● Listed	**University of the Highlands and Islands (UK)**	BA (Hons) Health and Social Studies	Year 3

LEVEL 6

OTHM · HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Level 6 Diploma in Health and Social Care Management

Bachelor's-level leadership, quality and research for senior roles in health and social care.

CREDITS	DURATION	LEARNING HOURS	MINIMUM AGE	OFQUAL NO.	FSOB FEE
120	1 year	1,200 total	18+	603/6820/2	£800

IS IT FOR YOU?

- Holders of a Level 5 diploma in health and social care
- Care managers over 21 aiming for senior leadership
- Learners planning Level 7 and master's study

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Aged 18 or over at the start of the course
- A relevant Level 5 diploma or equivalent, or
- Mature learners over 21 with management experience
- Evidence of English, if it is your second language

HOW YOU ARE ASSESSED

Portfolios, reports, a development plan and a research project, marked Pass or Fail.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Six mandatory units, each 20 credits.

Core	Personal and Professional Development in Health and Social Care
Core	Managing Quality in Health and Social Care Settings
Core	Principles of Leadership and Management
Core	Health and Safety in Health and Social Care Settings
Core	Resource Management in Health and Social Care
Core	Research Methods for Healthcare Professionals

ROLES IT CAN HELP PREPARE YOU FOR

Registered or service manager (with sector requirements met) · Quality and compliance manager · Operations manager in care · Health and social care consultant

WHERE IT CAN TAKE YOU

Next step with FSOB: A relevant OTHM Level 7 diploma, then advanced entry to a master's.

Status	University	Degree or programme	Entry
→ Bridge route	**London Graduate School (delivers partner-university awards)**	MSc Health and Social Care Management (Advanced Entry)	After OTHM Level 7
→ Bridge route	**University of Sunderland (UK)**	MBA (top-up)	After OTHM Level 7

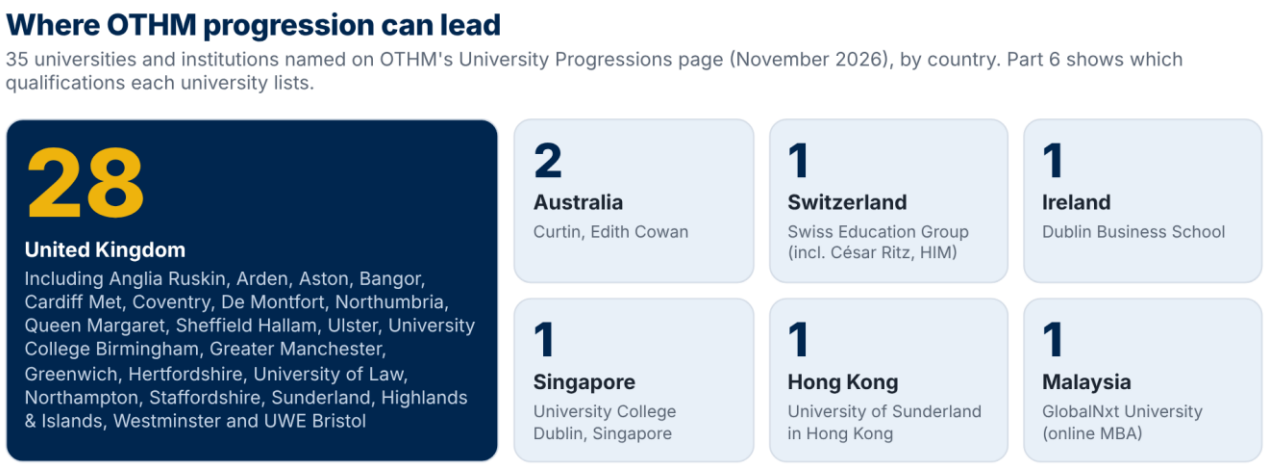
Good to know: OTHM states this qualification gives eligibility to apply for relevant master's programmes. Unit list from the OTHM specification (2023); we will confirm the current version when you enrol.

PART 6

University progression directory

Every university named for our OTHM diplomas, A to Z, with the exact qualification and entry stage. Plus how to check, ask and apply.

Where our diplomas can lead



Routes by entry stage

11	9	34	12
Year 1 listings	Year 2 / Stage 2 listings	Final-year and top-up listings	Postgraduate, MBA and other

Counts are listings (one qualification to one university programme group) across our twelve OTHM diplomas, excluding bridge routes.

A–Z university index

Find your university, then see which FSOB qualification leads there and at what stage. Symbols: ◐ listed with conditions, ◇ individual assessment. Full programme titles are in each profile.

University or institution	Country	FSOB qualification → entry stage
Anglia Ruskin University	UK	L3 Business Studies → Year 1

University or institution	Country	FSOB qualification → entry stage
Arden University	UK	L5 Extended Business → Top-up L7 Strategic Mgmt → Top-up L5 HSC Mgmt → Top-up, assessed individually ◇
Bangor University	UK	L3 Business Studies → Year 1 L3 Business Mgmt → Year 1 L4 Business Mgmt → Year 2 L5 Extended Business → Top-up L3 HSC Foundation → Year 1
Cardiff Metropolitan University	UK	L7 Strategic Mgmt → Top-up ◐
César Ritz Colleges	Switzerland	L4 Business Mgmt → On application ◇ L5 Business Mgmt → On application ◇ L5 Extended Business → On application ◇
Coventry University (through PSB Academy)	Singapore	L5 Extended Business → Top-up
Curtin University	Australia	L3 Business Studies → Year 1
De Montfort University	UK	L3 Business Mgmt → Year 1 L5 Extended Business → Year 3 L5 Extended Business → Top-up
Dublin Business School	Ireland	L5 Extended Business → Year 3
GlobalNxt University	Malaysia	L7 Strategic Mgmt → Advanced standing
University of Greater Manchester	UK	L3 Business Studies → Year 1 L3 Business Mgmt → Year 1 L5 Business Mgmt → Top-up L5 Extended Business → Top-up L7 Strategic Mgmt → Top-up L3 HSC Foundation → Year 1 L5 Extended HSC → Top-up
University of the Highlands and Islands	UK	L5 Extended Business → Year 3 L5 Extended HSC → Year 3
HIM Montreux	Switzerland	L4 Business Mgmt → On application ◇ L5 Business Mgmt → On application ◇ L5 Extended Business → On application ◇
University of Law	UK	L3 Business Mgmt → Year 1 L5 Business Mgmt → Top-up L5 Extended Business → Top-up
London Graduate School	Malta	L5 Extended Business → Top-up L6 Business Mgmt → Postgraduate L7 Strategic Mgmt → Top-up

University or institution	Country	FSOB qualification → entry stage
University of Northampton	UK	L7 Strategic Mgmt → Top-up
Northumbria University	UK	L5 Extended Business → Top-up L7 Strategic Mgmt → On application
Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh	UK	L4 Business Mgmt → Year 2
Sheffield Hallam University	UK	L4 Business Mgmt → Year 2 L5 Extended Business → Top-up ◐
University of South Wales	UK	L7 Strategic Mgmt → Advanced standing
University of Staffordshire	UK	L5 Extended Business → Top-up L5 Extended HSC → Year 3
University of Sunderland	UK	L3 Business Studies → Year 1 L4 Business Mgmt → Year 2 L5 Extended Business → Top-up L5 Extended Business → Year 3 L7 Strategic Mgmt → On application L5 Extended HSC → Top-up
University of Sunderland in Hong Kong	Hong Kong	L4 Business Mgmt → Year 2 L5 Extended Business → Year 3
Swiss Education Group (Swiss Hotel Management School)	Switzerland	L4 Business Mgmt → Semester 3, Year 3 ◐ L5 Business Mgmt → Year 3 ◐ L5 Extended Business → Year 3 ◐ L6 Business Mgmt → Postgraduate diploma, then master's ◐
Ulster University	UK	L7 Strategic Mgmt → On application
University College Birmingham	UK	L5 Extended Business → Top-up L5 Extended HSC → Top-up
University College Dublin, Singapore	Singapore	L4 Business Mgmt → Stage 2 L5 Business Mgmt → Stage 2 L5 Extended Business → Stage 2
University of Westminster	UK	L5 Business Mgmt → Top-up L5 Extended Business → Top-up

Bridge routes (for example, Level 4 HSC to a top-up via the Extended Diploma, or Level 6 HSC to an MSc via Level 7) are shown in the profiles.

What universities usually ask for

Requirement	What to prepare	Tip
Your FSOB certificate	OTHM or NCFE certificate, or proof you are on track to complete	Many universities make a conditional offer before you finish
Unit transcript	A list of units, credits and results	We can provide this; ask before you apply
Qualification specification	OTHM unit content and learning outcomes	Helps admissions teams decide on advanced entry
English language	IELTS, PTE, a university test or an accepted alternative	Check the exact score and test accepted for your course
English and maths (GCSE level)	GCSE grade 4/C or an accepted equivalent	Functional Skills Level 2 is accepted by some universities
Personal statement	Why this degree, what you learned, your goals	Mention specific FSOB units and projects
References	Academic or employer reference	Your FSOB tutor may be able to provide one
Identity and visa documents	Passport; visa documents if you will relocate	Academic offers and visas are separate decisions
Work experience	CV and employer letters (some top-ups and MBAs)	Sheffield Hallam top-up asks for significant work experience

How to contact a university admissions team

Before you enrol, it is often worth asking the university directly. Find the **specific degree page**, then its admissions, advanced-entry or international contact. Use this template:

> **Subject:** Eligibility enquiry: [degree title], [entry year], [intake]
>
> Dear Admissions Team,
>
> I am planning to study the [exact OTHM qualification title] (Ofqual [qualification number], [credits] credits) with Footprint School of Business, an approved OTHM centre. I would like to apply for [entry stage] of [degree title] for the [month year] intake. OTHM lists this route on its University Progressions page. Could you please confirm whether I would be eligible, and any additional requirements such as English language, grades or documents? I have attached my current certificates.
>
> Kind regards, [Your name, country, email]

PART 7

Studying with FSOB

What learning online with us looks like, week by week, and the support you can expect.

Your learning journey

Stage	What happens
Enrol	You receive confirmation, your fee summary and your login to our learning platform.
Induction	You learn how the platform works, how to submit work, how to reference sources and how to contact your tutor.
Learn	Each unit has lessons, readings, diagrams, case studies and short quizzes. On tutor-led courses you also join live classes.
Practise	You complete activities and receive feedback, so you know you are on track before your final assignment.
Submit	You upload your coursework for each unit. It is marked against the official assessment criteria.
Achieve	When all units are passed and quality-assured, the awarding organisation issues your certificate.
Progress	You move to your next FSOB level, apply to university, or take your new skills to work.

What a study week can look like

Three example patterns for a 120-credit diploma (about 23 hours a week over a year). Your own timetable depends on the course format.

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Full-time learner ~23 hrs	Lessons 4h	Reading 4h	Lessons 4h	Assignment 4h	Research 3h	Assignment 4h	Rest
Working adult ~14 hrs	Lesson 1.5h	—	Reading 1.5h	Lesson 1.5h	—	Assignment 5h	Review 4h
Parent / carer ~12 hrs	Evening 1.5h	Lesson 1.5h	Evening 1.5h	Lesson 1.5h	Evening 1h	Assignment 5h	Family

Lessons / live class · Reading & research · Assignment writing

Part-time study spreads a diploma over a longer period.

Support, assessment and your responsibilities

Support you can expect

- **Admissions advice** before you enrol, including your progression plan
- **Tutor support and feedback** on your learning and assignments
- **Live tutor-led classes** on courses advertised as tutor-led
- **Technical help** with the learning platform
- **Progression guidance** when you are ready to apply to university
- **Accessibility support:** tell us about any learning needs so we can make reasonable adjustments

How assessment works

- OTHM diplomas are assessed by **coursework**: reports, essays, presentations and projects, typically 2,000–4,500 words per unit
- Work is marked against published criteria and graded **Pass or Fail**
- Assessment is quality-assured by FSOB and externally verified by the awarding organisation
- Your work must be your own: we check for plagiarism and misuse of AI tools

Technology you will need

Device	Internet	Software	Email
Laptop or desktop recommended; tablet or phone for lessons on the go	A reliable connection; live classes need enough bandwidth for video	A web browser and a word processor (e.g. Microsoft Word or Google Docs)	An email address you check regularly

Your responsibilities as a student

- Study regularly and keep to agreed submission dates
- Tell us early if you are struggling or need a break
- Keep your contact details up to date
- Submit your own work and reference all sources
- Treat tutors and fellow students with respect
- Keep copies of your work, certificates and fee receipts

Your rights and protection

Before you pay, ask us for, and read, our **terms and conditions, refund and withdrawal policy, and complaints and appeals procedure**. We will send them in writing. Keep a copy of your course details, fee quotation and any written progression advice.

If a course start date or format changes after you enrol, we will tell you in writing and explain your options. If you are unhappy with an assessment decision you can appeal, and you can raise any concern through our complaints procedure.

PART 8

Careers and future opportunities

How your qualification connects to real jobs, and what employers and regulators may also ask for.

Career pathways by subject

Area	Entry roles (Level 2–3)	Supervisory roles (Level 4–5)	Senior roles (Level 6–7)
Business and management	Administrator, customer service adviser, sales or marketing assistant	Team leader, supervisor, HR or marketing officer, assistant manager	Operations or department manager, business analyst, senior manager, director
Health and social care	Care assistant, support worker, healthcare support worker	Senior carer, team leader, care coordinator, deputy manager	Registered or service manager, quality lead, operations manager
Children and young people	Residential childcare worker, teaching assistant	Senior practitioner, team leader	Residential childcare manager
Education and assessment	Teaching assistant, workplace assessor	Internal quality assurer, lead IQA	Quality or training manager
Digital	IT support technician, digital application technician	IT support lead, cyber security analyst (with experience)	IT or security management (further study)

Roles are illustrations of where learners commonly progress; most also depend on experience, and employers set their own requirements.

What employers value

- A recognised, regulated qualification with a clear level
- Practical knowledge of finance, people, marketing and operations
- Evidence that you can research, write and present professionally
- Commitment: completing a diploma while working or caring
- Sector knowledge such as safeguarding, quality and partnership working
- Readiness for promotion and further study

Regulated professions

Some careers, such as nursing, social work, teaching in schools and accountancy, require a specific accredited degree, registration with a professional body or a licence. These professions set their own routes to registration. An OTHM or NCFE qualification can be a strong first step, and the professional body will tell you what else you need. Check their requirements early and ask us how your course fits.

PART 9

Admissions, fees and international students

How to apply, what to prepare, how fees work, and what international students should know.

How to apply

1. **Choose your course** using Parts 4 and 5, or ask us to recommend one.
2. **Talk to admissions** by WhatsApp, phone or email. We review your certificates and confirm you meet the entry requirements.
3. **Agree your plan.** We confirm the exact qualification, delivery format, fees and, if relevant, your university progression plan in writing.
4. **Register online** through the course page on fsob.co.uk and upload your documents.
5. **Pay** your fee or first instalment (where instalments are offered).
6. **Start learning.** You receive your platform login and induction.

Documents checklist

- ☐ Passport or national identity card
- ☐ Highest academic certificates and transcripts
- ☐ Certified English translations of documents in other languages
- ☐ Evidence of English, if English is a second language in your home country
- ☐ CV and employer letter (mature-learner or experience-based entry)
- ☐ Any previous university or diploma transcripts (for advanced entry)

Fees and payment

- Our fees are published on each course page at fsob.co.uk; the fees in this prospectus were checked on 2 November 2026.
- Ask us exactly what your fee includes (for example registration with the awarding organisation, assessment and certification) and whether any resubmission charges apply.
- Ask whether you can pay in instalments for your course.
- You will receive a written fee summary before you pay. Make payments through the official FSOB channels we give you.

International students

Students from around the world study with us online. You can complete your entire OTHM or NCFE qualification from your home country.

Question	What you need to know
Can I study from outside the UK?	Yes. Our courses are online. Check live-class times in your time zone.
Do I need a visa to study with FSOB?	You study online from your own country and stay where you are for the whole course.
If I progress to a UK university?	You will usually need a Student visa sponsored by the university. The university decides on your place and the Home Office decides on your visa. See gov.uk/student-visa.
Will my home country recognise my qualification?	Recognition varies by country and purpose (study, employment or a regulated profession). Check with your national recognition body, employer or university. In the UK, international qualification comparisons are provided by UK ENIC.
What currency do I pay in?	Fees are in pounds sterling (GBP). Your bank may add exchange or transfer fees.

PART 10

Frequently asked questions

Straight answers to the questions students ask us most.

About FSOB and recognition

Are FSOB qualifications recognised?

Your certificate is issued by OTHM or NCFE, awarding organisations regulated by Ofqual. You can check each qualification number on the Ofqual Register.

Who issues my certificate?

The awarding organisation (OTHM or NCFE), once you pass all units and the results are verified.

What kind of institution is FSOB?

We are a UK-based education and training provider and an approved OTHM and NCFE centre. We teach and assess regulated qualifications that universities recognise for entry.

About courses and study

Can I study while working?

Yes. Most of our students do. Our courses are online and many are self-paced; tutor-led courses have scheduled live classes.

How are courses assessed?

OTHM diplomas are assessed through coursework. Some NCFE qualifications include other assessment methods; the course page explains.

What if I fail an assignment?

You receive feedback on what to improve and can resubmit, in line with FSOB and awarding-organisation policies. Ask us about any resubmission fees.

Can I pause my studies?

Tell us as early as possible. We will explain your options, which depend on your course and registration period.

About university progression

Will a Level 3 diploma get me into university?

It makes you eligible to apply to the universities listed for it. The university reviews your full application and makes the offer.

Which Level 5 diploma gives me the most final-year options?

The Level 5 Extended Diploma (240 credits) has the most final-year and top-up listings. Your entry stage depends on the exact qualification and the university.

Can I apply to other universities?

Yes. Any university can consider your application individually. The listed routes are the ones OTHM publishes.

Can FSOB apply to university for me?

You apply directly to the university, and we help you prepare your documents and check the requirements.

About fees and careers

Where can I see current prices?

On each course page at fsob.co.uk. We confirm your fee in writing before you pay.

Is there financial support?

Ask us about current offers and whether instalments are available for your course.

Can health and social care study lead to nursing?

Nursing requires an approved nursing degree and registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council. Our health and social care qualifications prepare you for care, support and management roles.

PART 11

Take the next step

Check you are ready, then talk to us. We reply quickly, and there is no obligation.

My readiness checklist

Tick each box before you enrol. We can help you with any box that is still empty.

- ☐ I know the exact qualification title, level and credits I need
- ☐ I meet, or have checked, the FSOB entry requirements
- ☐ I have looked at the university course page for my target degree
- ☐ I know what English, maths and other requirements apply
- ☐ I have estimated the total cost and time of my whole journey
- ☐ I have at least one alternative university or degree (Plan B)
- ☐ I have a written fee summary and have read FSOB's terms
- ☐ I know how my course is delivered and how many hours a week I need

Talk to our admissions team

Tell us your goal and we will recommend the right course, check your entry requirements and map your route to university or promotion.

WHATSAPP AND PHONE
+44 7344 474731

EMAIL
info@fsob.co.uk

WEBSITE
fsob.co.uk

LEEDS
Ground Floor, Radley House, Richardshaw Road, Leeds LS28 6LE

LONDON
20 Wenlock Road, London N1 7GU

OPENING HOURS
Monday to Friday, 08:00–20:00 (UK time)

FOLLOW US
Facebook · Instagram · LinkedIn · TikTok
@footprint.school

Appendix: glossary, resources and qualification reference

Glossary

Term	Meaning
Awarding organisation	The body that designs a qualification and issues the certificate (for us, OTHM and NCFE).
Ofqual	The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation, which regulates qualifications in England.
RQF level	The level of a regulated qualification, from Entry to Level 8, showing how demanding it is.
Credit / TQT / GLH	Credit = 10 hours of learning. Total Qualification Time (TQT) is all learning hours; Guided Learning Hours (GLH) are hours with a tutor.
Top-up degree	A one-year university course that turns a Level 5 qualification into a bachelor's degree with honours.
Advanced entry / advanced standing	Joining a degree after Year 1 because your previous study is recognised.
Conditional offer	A university place that depends on you meeting stated conditions, such as completing your diploma.
Unit transcript	A record of the units and credits you have achieved.
UK ENIC	The UK's national agency for comparing international qualifications.

Official resources

Resource	Address
FSOB courses and contact	fsob.co.uk · fsob.co.uk/contact-us
OTHM qualifications	othm.org.uk
OTHM University Progressions	othm.org.uk/university-progression
FSOB on the OTHM centre listing	othm.org.uk/listingcenter?cn=DC2610074
NCFE	ncfe.org.uk
Ofqual Register	register.ofqual.gov.uk
What qualification levels mean	gov.uk/what-different-qualification-levels-mean
UK Student visa	gov.uk/student-visa
UCAS (UK undergraduate applications)	ucas.com

OTHM qualification reference

Qualification	Ofqual no.	Level	Credits	TQT	GLH
Level 3 Diploma in Business Studies	603/2171/4	3	60	600	360
Level 3 Diploma in Business Management	603/7795/1	3	120	1,200	600
Level 4 Diploma in Business Management	610/0763/8	4	120	1,200	600
Level 5 Diploma in Business Management	610/1527/1	5	120	1,200	600
Level 5 Extended Diploma in Business Management	610/0335/9	5	240	2,400	1,200
Level 6 Diploma in Business Management	603/2179/9	6	120	1,200	480
Level 7 Diploma in Strategic Management and Leadership	603/2181/7	7	120	1,200	600
Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Health and Social Care	603/6776/3	3	60	600	300
Level 4 Diploma in Health and Social Care Management	610/0784/5	4	120	1,200	600
Level 5 Diploma in Health and Social Care Management	610/1537/4	5	120	1,200	600
Level 5 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care Management	610/0333/5	5	240	2,400	1,200
Level 6 Diploma in Health and Social Care Management	603/6820/2	6	120	1,200	480

About this prospectus

Published November 2026 for 2026–27 enrolments. Qualification details are taken from the current OTHM specifications; university routes from OTHM's University Progressions page and fees from fsob.co.uk, all checked on 2 November 2026.

Universities set their own entry requirements and may update them between intakes. Always confirm current details with FSOB and the university before you enrol or apply. To report a correction, email info@fsob.co.uk.