

Qualification Guide

OCNLR Level 4 Certificate in Independent Stalking Advocacy Specialist

OCN London Qualification Guide

OCNLR Level 4 Certificate in Independent Stalking Advocacy Specialist
Qualification No: 610/5269/3

OCN London aims to support learning and widening opportunities by recognising achievement through credit-based courses and qualifications, promoting high standards of excellence and inclusiveness.

We are proud of our long-term role and unique history in providing innovative learning solutions for a wide range of learners and particularly those who have not previously benefitted from education.

At the heart of what OCN London offers is:

- a commitment to inclusive credit-based learning;
- the creative use of credit with responsive, demand-led qualification development;
- high quality service and support;
- respect for and encouragement of diversity – in learners and learning approaches, partners and settings;
- the development of people, capacity and resources that will ensure effective business partnerships.

To navigate within this Qualification Guide

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General Information

This qualification guide contains details of everything you need to know about the OCNLR Level 4 Certificate in Independent Stalking Advocacy Specialist. It makes reference to the curriculum areas covered and identifies the learners for whom the qualification has been developed. The guide also covers important aspects of assessment and moderation that are particular to the qualification. The guide should be used by all involved in the delivery and assessment of the qualification. The Account Manager for your Centre will provide support and advice on how to seek approval to offer the qualification.

If you are not yet an OCN London Approved Centre but wish to use this qualification, then please contact us on enquiries@ocnlondon.org.uk for details of the Centre Approval application process.

Qualification Overview

The **OCNLR Level 4 Certificate in Independent Stalking Advocacy Specialist** has been developed in collaboration with Professional Training and Development Team of Safer Places – domestic abuse charity supporting adults and child survivors of domestic abuse across Essex and Hertfordshire for nearly 50 years. This qualification offers practitioners the opportunity to develop their knowledge and skills required to offer expert support and advice to victims of stalking. The three units enable practitioners to understand the key roles of the ISAS which includes understanding stalking behaviours, perpetrators of stalking, risk and safety, impact of stalking, working in a multiagency way. The qualification also provides practical information on tools, strategies and approaches relevant to working with stalking victims. They also discuss key services available for those impacted by stalking and remedies available under current civil law and criminal law. To develop skills to work to prevent the development of stalking by understanding the characteristics and behaviours of perpetrators and the range of responses a victim may have as well as the diverse needs of these client groups.

The **OCNLR Level 4 Certificate in Independent Stalking Advocacy Specialist** qualification is regulated by Ofqual, the qualifications regulator for England, and is registered on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF). It is not a licence to practise.

Qualification details

The **OCNLR Level 4 Certificate in Independent Stalking Advocacy Specialist** qualification is available at Level 4 only.

Level 4 Certificate

- Qualification Number: 610/5269/3
- Qualification credit value: 15
- Operational start date: 01/02/2025
- Review date: 28th September 2026
- Total Qualification Time (TQT): 150 hours
- Guided Learning Hours (GLH): 105
- Assessment requirements: internally assessed, internally and externally moderated.

Purpose of the qualification

The purpose of **OCNLR Level 4 Certificate in Independent Stalking Advocacy Specialist** qualification is to provide learners with the underpinning skills to offer safe and effective support in carrying out interventions in stalking situations. This qualification recognises that stalking requires specialist knowledge and skills and a deeper understanding. It recognises that there is a need to raise the profile and understanding of stalking across all sectors. This qualification incorporates evidence-based practice and extensive experiences of professionals supporting victims affected by Stalking.

Who the qualification is for

The **OCNLR Level 4 Certificate in Independent Stalking Advocacy Specialist** is suitable for professionals that are working with victims of crime, primarily working with victims of domestic abuse, stalking and harassment. This qualification is also suitable for those qualified in a level 3 that wish to specialise in stalking.

Entry guidance

This qualification is suitable for learners aged 18+. To undertake this qualification, learners must have an IDVA qualification, or equivalent relevant level 3 qualification or have at least 12 months professional experience in supporting victims that have experienced stalking, domestic abuse or sexual abuse or victims of crime in an employed or voluntary role in any setting.

Progression and related qualifications

This qualification provides continuing professional development, learners completing the ISAS qualification will enable them to have the acquired skills, knowledge and understanding on how to safely support a victim of stalking. The ISAS qualification will support anyone in the role of stalking victims and can also prepare them for a job role within the stalking sector.

Guidance on delivering the qualification

At least one person in the delivery team must have, as a minimum, worked as a practitioner in the stalking sector for at least three years, and be competent in all areas of the training. They must have at least two years of experience of providing training and assessment in relation to stalking victims. They must hold a qualification level 4 or higher and at least level 3 qualification in training and assessment. Please contact OCN London for decisions on particular qualifications if in doubt.

Structure of the qualification

Rules of combination for achievement

To achieve the **OCNLR Level 4 Certificate in Independent Stalking Advocacy Specialist**, learners must complete 15 credits from the three mandatory units.

Qualification units

Ofqual Unit No.	OCNLR Unit Code	Unit title	Level	Credit Value	GLH
M/651/4666	PS4/4/LQ/001	What is Stalking?	4	7	49
R/651/4667	PS4/4/LQ/003	Criminal and Civil Justice Systems in Relation to Stalking	4	3	21
T/651/4668	PS4/4/LQ/002	The Role of the ISAS	4	5	35

Assessment and Moderation

Assessment process

The assessment process for this qualification is as follows:

- The learners are assessed through activities that are internally set by tutor assessors;
- The activities must be designed to enable learners to meet the assessment criteria of the unit;
- Learners' portfolios of assessed evidence must be internally moderated at the Centre;
- The portfolios of assessed evidence will be externally moderated by an OCN London External Moderator.

There is no additional external assessment for this qualification.

Devising assessments

Each unit has a supplementary page with information on the types of assessment activities that can (indicated as 'Optional' or 'O') and/or must (indicated as 'Prescribed' or 'P') be used to assess learners against the unit. Tutor assessors must always refer to this page before devising assessment tasks.

Centre devised assessments should be scrutinised by the Internal Moderator before use to ensure that they are fit for purpose. Centre devised assessments will be scrutinised by the External Moderator to ensure reliability and validity of assessment.

Marking assessment activities

Each activity must be marked against the identified assessment criteria in the unit and judged to be either achieved or not achieved.

Assessors need to ensure that the work in a learner's portfolio is:

- Authentic – it is the result of the learner's own performance or activity;
- Sufficient – enabling the assessor to make a consistent and reliable judgement;
- Adequate – appropriate to the level.

Where a series of activities are set, learners must demonstrate the achievement of the required standard identified in the assessment criteria in all activities. All of the assessment criteria in a unit must be met before the unit is deemed achieved.

The unit achievement is not graded. Units are either achieved or not achieved.

Standardisation

Standardisation is a process that promotes consistency in the understanding and application of standards in relation to assessment. It:

- compares assessment judgements from different tutor/assessors;
- promotes consistent judgements by different tutor/assessors;
- identifies good practice in assessment;
- promotes the sharing of good practice in assessment between centre staff.

Standardisation events should be held periodically within centres to ensure consistent and effective assessment practice. Standardisation events may also be held by OCN London and it is a requirement that each Centre offering units from the qualification must contribute assessment materials and learners' evidence for standardisation, if requested.

OCN London will notify Centres of the required sample for standardisation purposes and assessment materials, learners' evidence and tutor feedback may be collected by External Moderators.

Learners with particular requirements

If learners have particular requirements the Centre should refer to the 'Access to Fair Assessment Policy and Procedure' which can be found on our website at: [Access to Fair Assessment Policy and Procedure](#) and gives clear guidance on the reasonable adjustments and arrangements that can be made to take account of disability or learning difficulty, without compromising the achievement of the assessment criteria.

Requirements for tutor/assessors

Assessors of the qualification are expected to have, as a minimum, worked as a practitioner in the stalking sector for at least three years, and be competent in all areas of the training. They must have at least two years of experience of providing training and assessment in relation to stalking victims. They must hold a qualification level 4 or higher and at least level 3 qualification in training and assessment.

(Contact OCN London for decisions on particular qualifications if in doubt.)

To be sufficiently competent

In addition to being qualified to make assessment decisions, each assessor must be capable of carrying out the full requirements within the competency of the units they are assessing. This competence should be maintained annually through clearly demonstrable continuing learning and professional development.

Expert witnesses can be used where they have suitable expertise for specialist areas. The use of expert witnesses should be determined and agreed by the assessor.

To be sufficiently knowledgeable

Each assessor should possess relevant knowledge and understanding of the subject and so be able to make robust and reliable assessment decisions in relation to the subject.



 OCN London

24 Angel Gate, 326 City Road, London EC1V 2PT

 www.ocnlondon.org.uk

 enquiries@ocnlondon.org.uk

 020 7278 5511