



Leicestershire  
**Police**

Protecting our communities

# Qualification Guide

What do you need to apply to  
join Leicestershire Police?

[leics.police.uk](https://leics.police.uk)



# Example of Qualification Levels

University	8	Doctorate PhD			
	7	Master's Degree MA/ MSc	Post Grad Diploma/ Post Grad Cert		
	6	Undergraduate Degree BA/ BSc	Honours Degree		Higher / Degree Apprenticeship
	5	Foundation Degree FdA/ FdSc	Higher National Diploma (HND)	Diploma in Higher Education	
	4		Higher National Certificate (HNC)	Certificate in Higher Education	
College	3	A Level/ A2/ AS	BTEC National Diploma	International Baccalaureate	Advanced Apprenticeship
School	2	GCSE Grade A-C/ 9-1	BTEC First Diploma		Intermediate Apprenticeship
	1	GCSE Grade D-G/ 3-1			

# The qualifications you need to become a police or detective constable for each entry route

## Detective and Police Constable Initial Police Learning and Development Programme (IPLDP)

- Hold 2 A levels or a level 3 that is equivalent qualification in any subject or are in your last year of study
- or are a current serving PCSO, who has completed your professional development plan, passed your probationary period at the time of application and are up to date with all mandatory training
- or are a current serving Special Constable who has attained independent patrol status at the time of application, who is consistently completing sixteen hours per month and is up to date with all mandatory training
- or are a current serving ISA, who has attended the Leicestershire Police ISA training course, passed your probationary period at the time of application and has 12 months service in the role of ISA.

## Police Constable Degree Apprenticeship (PCDA)

- Level 2 qualification, minimum grade C/4 in English & Maths
- Hold 2 A levels or a level 3 that is equivalent qualification in any subject or are in your last year of study
- or are a current serving PCSO, who has completed your professional development plan, passed your probationary period at the time of application and are up to date with all mandatory training
- or are a current serving Special Constable who has attained independent patrol status at the time of application, who is consistently completing sixteen hours per month and is up to date with all mandatory training
- or are a current serving ISA, who has attended the Leicestershire ISA training course, passed your probationary period at the time of application and has 12 months service in the role of ISA.

## Police Constable Degree in Professional Policing (DiPP)

- Degree in Professional Policing, or
- In your final year of study

Click to view the [Universities offering a professional policing degree | College of Policing](#)

## Accepted Level 3 Qualifications

- 2 x A Levels (Grade A-E)
- 4-5 x AS Levels (Grade A – E)
- Access to Higher Education Diploma
- Advanced Apprenticeship
- Level 3 NVQ
- International Baccalaureate (IB)
- BTEC National Diploma
- A2 alongside AS/A Levels to meet criteria
- Foundation Diploma
- Music Grade 6-8

- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
- City & Guilds Level 3
- CACHE, OCR, Edexcel/ Pearson2
- CIPD Level 3
- QCF Certificate at Level 3
- Level 3 SVQ
- BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma
- IGCSE with any English and/or Maths in the title
- EAL Level 3 Diploma

## PCDA - Accepted Level 2 Maths Qualifications

- Functional Skills – Maths (Level 2)
- GCSE Maths Grade 4/C or above including the following: Short Courses/ Piolet Courses, Double Awards (min. acceptable C/D), Linear Maths, Modular Maths, International GCSE - any Maths in the title of the qualification, Use of Mathematics, Application of Math, Additional Maths, Level 1/2 Certificate in Mathematics
- Key Skills Application of Number/ Numeracy (Full Certificate/ All Units) – Minimum level 2
- Basic Skills Certificate - Certificate in Adult Numeracy – Minimum level 2
- A/AS Level Maths including the following: Pure Maths, Further Maths or Use of Maths - Minimum grade E
- O Level Mathematics – Grade C (Pre. 1975/evidence of a Pass)
- Essential Skills Wales Application Number – Minimum level 2
- Essential Skills Northern Ireland Application Number – Minimum level 3
- CSE Mathematics – Minimum level 1
- Core Maths Level 3 ( where included in performance tables) to include Mathematical Studies, Using and Applying Mathematics, Quantitative Problem Solving, Mathematics in Context, Mathematics for Work & Life, Quantitative Reasoning – Minimum grade E

**This is not an exhaustive list if you are unsure please contact the recruitment team.**

# PCDA - Accepted Level 2 English Qualifications

- Functional Skills – English – Minimum level 2
- "GCSE English Grade C/4 or above - any with English in the title. Including: -- English Literature- Level 1/2 Certificate in English Literature / Language- International GCSEs - any with English in the title- English Communication- English Studies- English Language- Double Awards (minimum grade acceptable CD)- Short courses, Pilot courses.
- NOT acceptable is English as a Second Language.
- Key Skills Communication/Literacy (Full Certificate/All Units) – Minimum level 2
- Basic Skills Certificate L2 - Certificate in Adult Literacy – Minimum level 2
- "A/AS Level English - any with English in the title. Including:- English Language- English Literature- English Language and Literature" – Minimum level 2
- O Level English, English Language, English Literature or English Language and Literature - Minimum Grade C or pre 1975 evidence of a PASS
- CSE English – Minimum grade 1
- Pre U Certificate Literature in English – P3
- Essential Communication Skills or Essential Skills Wales in Communication - Minimum level 2
- Northern Ireland Certificate in Essential Skills Communication – Minimum level 2
- British Sign Language - regulated qualifications (ONLY where British Sign Language is the Apprentice's primary language) – Minimum level 2 or SCQF Level 5
- Scottish Advanced Higher in English (SCQF Level 7), Scottish Higher in English (SCQF Level 6), Scottish National 5 in English (SCQF Level 5), Scottish Intermediate 2 in English (SCQF Level 5), Scottish Standard Grade Credit in English (SCQF Level 5). Minimum Grade C
- Scottish National Certificate Unit Communication (SCQF Level 6), Scottish Core Skill Unit in Communication (SCQF Level 5), Scottish Workplace Core Skill Unit in Communication (SCQF Level 5), Scottish National Unit Literacy (SCQF Level 5). Pass
- Scottish Ordinary Grade in English (SCQF Level 5). Minimum grade C
- IBO Middle Years Programme Level 1/2 Certificate in Language and Literature. Minimum grade 3
- "International Baccalaureate Diploma Standard or Higher Level Qualification in:- English A: Literature or- English Literature and Performance- English A: Language & Literature"
- Overseas qualification are acceptable with clear evidence from NARIC (a certificate/statement of comparability)\*\* that qualification is an equivalent level to the minimum SASE requirements and additional information that confirms qualification is equivalent to GCSE A\*- C.
- International Certificate of Christian Education - ICCE (General or Advanced) English
- GCSE English as a Second Language, Access to Higher Education Diplomas, FE Access Programmes in Literacy, GNVQs – **not accepted**

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**For more information contact the Recruitment Team on  
[recruitment@derbyshire.police.uk](mailto:recruitment@derbyshire.police.uk)**