

# BTEC Bulletin

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## EXTENSION OF ACCREDITATION OF BTEC SPECIALIST AND SHORT COURSE QUALIFICATIONS

A number of BTEC Specialist and Short Course qualifications are due to expire during 2009, and we are currently in the process of seeking extensions with the various Sector Skills Councils for the vast majority of these, where possible, to either August or December 2010.

The very latest information regarding extensions to BTEC Short Courses that are due to expire can be accessed under "Accreditation Update" on the following page: <http://www.edexcel.com/quals/btec-sc/Pages/Keydocument.aspx>. Please note that this document is updated whenever we receive confirmation of an extension, so please check this on a regular basis.

We are currently about to start reviewing our entire suite of BTEC Specialist and Short Course qualifications, to determine which will be revised and submitted for accreditation onto the

Qualifications and Credit Framework from September 2010. The outcomes of this review will be published in the same document mentioned in the previous paragraph.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING BTEC ENTRY AND INTRODUCTORY QUALIFICATIONS AND FLT**

BTEC Entry Level Certificates in Skills for Working Life, and BTEC Entry Level Certificate in Life Skills have now been extended, in terms of NQF accreditation, to 31 August 2010. Level 1 BTEC Introductory qualifications have also been extended to 31 August 2010. This means that approved centres can register learners for both suites of BTEC qualifications up until this date. The certification end date for the BTEC Entry Level qualifications is 31 August 2012, and for the BTEC Introductory qualifications up to 31 August 2011.

Centres wishing to deliver qualifications for the first time at Entry Level and/or Level 1 from September 2009 can either:

- gain approval for the BTEC Entry or BTEC Introductory qualifications up until 31 August 2009 only, and register learners on these from 1 September 2009 to 31 August 2010 or
- gain approval for the Foundation Learning Tier, once the approval system is open (scheduled from mid-August 2009), and register learners on the FLT qualifications from 1 September 2009.

It should be noted that all registrations at Entry Level and/or Level 1 will need to be on the new Foundation Learning Tier framework of qualifications from September 2010.

As well as Functional Skills the FLT offer from Edexcel also comprises BTEC Personal and Social Development and vocational units in the BTEC format.

Click on the following link for approval information, details of accreditation and content of units of the qualifications which form the Foundation Learning Tier:

<http://www.edexcel.com/quals/flt/Pages/specifications.aspx>. Please note that centres must be approved for FLT before delivering the FLT qualifications.

## **BTEC 2010 BRIEFING EVENTS**

Throughout May we held events up and down the country presenting how the new BTECs will look from September 2010. If you missed these events, please click on the following link to download a copy of the presentation: <http://www.edexcel.com/notices/Documents/BTEC%202010%20Briefing.ppt>.

Due to the huge demand for these briefings, we have added two extra online events which you can log on to remotely.

The event details are below. To participate in online training please do one of the following:

- email [trainingbookings@edexcel.org.uk](mailto:trainingbookings@edexcel.org.uk)
- if you have an Edexcel Online account, you can book using the online form at [www.edexcel.com/training](http://www.edexcel.com/training)
- call the BTEC and NVQ Enquiries line on 0844 576 0026.

When booking, please quote the event code, your name, centre name and centre number. To ensure you receive the URL link to the session on time, please ensure you provide the correct email address.

Event Title: BTEC 2010 - Online Briefing  
Event Code: 8OJM06/01  
Event Date: 01/07/2009  
Start Time: 16:00  
Duration: 1 hr  
Fee: Free

Event Title: BTEC 2010 - Online Briefing  
Event Code: 8OJM06/02  
Event Date: 13/07/2009  
Start Time: 16:00  
Duration: 1 hr  
Fee: Free

We will be running more sector specific launch events starting in autumn 2009. Further details will be sent out shortly and announced in the BTEC Bulletin and BTEC Update.

## INFORMATION REGARDING NEW QCF BTEC FIRSTS AND NATIONALS AVAILABLE FROM SEPTEMBER 2010

Work is progressing well on the redevelopment of the BTEC Firsts and Nationals for accreditation on to the QCF for first teaching from 1 September 2010. Edexcel has submitted over 120 titles to the regulator for accreditation and more are being submitted in the coming weeks. Pre-accreditation draft structures and units for most sectors can be found on the following pages:

<http://www.edexcel.com/2010btecfirsts>  
<http://www.edexcel.com/2010btecnationals>

We are developing and have submitted (or will be shortly submitting) for QCF accreditation Level 2 BTEC Firsts in the following three sizes (note that these are working qualification award titles) and in the following sectors:

BTEC First Diploma	(equivalent to 4 GCSEs A*-C)	360 GLH / 60 credits
BTEC First Certificate	(equivalent to 2 GCSEs A*-C)	180 GLH / 30 credits
BTEC First Award	(equivalent to 1 GCSE A*-C)	90 GLH / 15 credits

### Applied Science

- Applied Science

### Art and Design

- Art and Design

### Beauty Therapy

- Beauty Therapy Sciences (NEW)

### Business and Services

- Business
- Understanding Enterprise and Entrepreneurship (NEW)

### Construction and the Built Environment

- Construction

## **Engineering and Vehicle Technology**

- Engineering
- Engineering (Electronics)
- Engineering (Maintenance)
- Engineering (Manufacturing)
- Vehicle Technology
- Vehicle Technology (Body and Paint)
- Vehicle Technology (Fitting)
- Vehicle Technology (Maintenance and Repair)
- Vehicle Technology (Motorsports)

## **Health and Social Care**

- Children's Care, Learning and Development
- Health and Social Care

## **Hospitality**

- Hospitality

## **IT and Computing**

- Information Technology

## **Land and the Environment**

- Agriculture
- Animal Care
- Blacksmithing and Metalworking (NEW)
- Countryside and Environment
- Fish Husbandry
- Floristry
- Horse Care
- Horticulture
- Land-based Technology

## **Media**

- Media Production

## **Performing Arts**

- Music
- Performing Arts (Acting)
- Performing Arts (Dance)
- Performing Arts (Performance)
- Performing Arts (Production)

## **Public Services**

- Public Services

## **Sport**

- Sport

## **Travel and Tourism**

- Travel and Tourism

We are developing and have submitted (or will be shortly submitting) for QCF accreditation Level 3 BTEC Nationals in the following four sizes (note these are working qualification award titles) and in the following sectors (in a minority of sectors not all sizes of qualification apply):

<b>BTEC National Diploma</b>	<b>(equivalent to 3 GCE A Levels)</b>	1080 GLH / 180 credits
<b>BTEC National Certificate</b>	<b>(equivalent to 2 GCE A Levels)</b>	720 GLH / 120 credits
<b>BTEC National Award</b>	<b>(equivalent to 1 GCE A Level)</b>	360 GLH / 60 credits
<b>BTEC National Subsidiary Award</b>	<b>(equivalent to 1 GCE AS Level)</b>	180 GLH / 30 credits

#### **Applied Science**

- Applied Science
- Applied Science (Forensic Science)
- Applied Science (Medical Science)
- Dental Technology
- Pharmacy Services

#### **Art and Design**

- Art and Design
- Art and Design (3D Design)
- Art and Design (Design Crafts)
- Art and Design (Fashion and Clothing)
- Art and Design (Fine Art)
- Art and Design (Graphic Design)
- Art and Design (Interactive Media)
- Art and Design (Photography)
- Art and Design (Textiles)

#### **Beauty Therapy**

- Beauty Therapy Sciences

#### **Business and Services**

- Applied Law
- Business
- Business (Administration)
- Business (Finance)
- Business (Human Resources)
- Business (Law)
- Business (Logistics) **(NEW)**
- Business (Management)
- Business (Marketing)
- Business (Retail) **(NEW)**
- Personal and Business Finance
- Understanding Enterprise and Entrepreneurship **(NEW)**

#### **Construction and the Built Environment**

- Construction and the Built Environment
- Construction and the Built Environment (Building Services Engineering)
- Construction and the Built Environment (Civil Engineering)

#### **Engineering and Vehicle Technology**

- Aerospace Engineering
- Communications Technology

- Electrical/Electronic Engineering
- Engineering
- Manufacturing Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Operations and Maintenance Engineering
- Vehicle Technology
- Vehicle Technology (Motorsports)

#### **Health and Social Care**

- Children's Care, Learning and Development
- Health and Social Care
- Health and Social Care (Health Sciences)
- Health and Social Care (Health Studies)
- Health and Social Care (Social Care)

#### **Hospitality**

- Hospitality

#### **IT and Computing**

- Information Technology
- Information Technology (IT and Business)
- Information Technology (Networking)
- Information Technology (Software Development)
- Information Technology (Systems Support)

#### **Land and the Environment**

- Agriculture
- Animal Management
- Blacksmithing and Metalworking
- Countryside Management
- Fish Management
- Floristry
- Forestry and Arboriculture
- Horse Management
- Horticulture
- Land-based Technology

#### **Media**

- Media Production
- Media Production (Games Development)
- Media Production (Interactive Media)
- Media Production (Print-Based Media)
- Media Production (Radio)
- Media Production (Sound Recording)
- Media Production (Television and Film)

#### **Performing Arts**

- Music
- Music (Composing)
- Music (Performing)
- Music Technology
- Music Technology (DJ Technology)

- Music Technology (Recording)
- Performing Arts
- Performing Arts (Acting)
- Performing Arts (Dance)
- Performing Arts (Musical Theatre)
- Performing Arts (Physical Theatre)
- Production Arts
- Production Arts (Arts Management)
- Production Arts (Costume)
- Production Arts (Design)
- Production Arts (Makeup)
- Production Arts (Set Design and Construction)
- Production Arts (Stage Management)
- Production Arts (Technical)
- Production Arts (Theatre Technology)

#### Public Services

- Public Services

#### Sport

- Sport
- Sport (Development, Coaching and Fitness)
- Sport (Outdoor Adventure)
- Sport (Performance and Excellence)
- Sport and Exercise Sciences

#### Travel and Tourism

- Aviation Operations
- Travel and Tourism

Please note that these titles are subject to change.

## TRAINING FROM EDEXCEL

Each year Edexcel runs over 2,500 training courses on its national programme, covering 150 qualifications. To celebrate the launch of the new 2009/10 programme, centres are being sent a FREE copy of the Training Directory this June.

You can now access information and book places on training events scheduled in 2009/10 via our online booking system. Please use the following link and enter appropriate search criteria:

<https://eiewebvip.edexcel.org.uk/TrainingBookingsPublic/>.

## POLICY FOR AGE OF LEARNERS ON A BTEC PROGRAMME

We have formalised our policy on the age of learners on BTEC Programmes in order to clarify the age at which learners may commence study for BTEC programmes and when to make registrations to gain certification. To view the policy, please click on the following link:

<http://www.edexcel.com/notices/Documents/Age%20of%20Learners.pdf>.

## VQ DAY 2009

Millions of learners gain a vocational qualification every year as a stepping stone to further study, better jobs or enhanced skills. BTEC alone had over 650,000 registrations in 2007/2008 and continues to go from strength to strength.

Edexcel believes it is important to support its vocational learners and is proud to be working with education foundation Edge in supporting VQ Day 2009. VQ Day was set up to celebrate and raise the profile of vocational qualifications. Learners, educational institutions, employers and awarding bodies all come together to highlight the opportunities these qualifications provide to millions of learners around the UK every year.

The second annual VQ Day celebrations will take place on 24 June 2009. Last year saw over 50 events take place and this year is set to be even bigger. There are lots of ways to get involved, from registering your qualifications on the VQ Day roll call to holding your own event.

For more information about VQ Day, how to get involved or to download an action pack please visit [www.vqday.org.uk](http://www.vqday.org.uk).

## BTEC FIRSTS: PLANNING, DELIVERY AND ASSESSMENT FOR YOUR VOCATIONAL AREA

We have arranged a BTEC First training day in London at the Hatton Conference Centre on Monday 29 June 2009, entitled 'BTEC Firsts: Planning, Delivery and Assessment for your Vocational Area'.

This event will cover BTEC Firsts in Art and Design, Business, Health and Social Care, Performing Arts and Sport, and is designed for tutors or course leaders who will be teaching and co-ordinating BTEC Firsts from September 2009.

For more information please visit the following page on our website:  
<http://www.edexcel.com/resources/training/btecfirst2906/Pages/home.aspx>.

## MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAMME

This week sees the launch of three brand new events that take place at the end of June, and early July.

### [Every Leader Matters -The Really Useful School Leaders Workshop](#)

This event is for anyone with management responsibility in a school or college who wants to develop their leadership skills and improve their management performance.

### [Changing Negative Behaviour to Positive Performance](#)

This one-day session will introduce techniques to help you engage your difficult members of staff to move their negative behaviour to positive performance.

### [Needs-Focused Classroom Management](#)

Presented by Rob Plevin (Author of Magic Classroom Management)

This event is for any teacher who is experiencing problems with difficult groups and individuals in the classroom. Needs-focused Classroom Management will provide a clear and simple, step-by-step blueprint for successfully managing the most challenging individuals and groups.

## WEEKLY EMAIL UPDATES

We have recently launched a new weekly BTEC email update for centres. If you have not yet received this, and wish to subscribe to the service, please email [btecmarketing@edexcel.com](mailto:btecmarketing@edexcel.com).

## I AM A QUALITY NOMINEE - NEW AREA ON THE EDEXCEL WEBSITE

With our minds firmly focused on helping our customers, Edexcel has published new web content designed to assist the BTEC Quality Nominee in each centre to obtain up to date information related to BTEC quality assurance. Please see here: <http://www.edexcel.com/i-am-a-qualitynominee/Pages/qn-home.aspx>.



Providing information and resources in one place means that you now have a convenient 'one-stop shop' giving you access to the web content you use most often.

You are now just one click away from our Ask the Expert service for subject-specific advice, getting important notices, accessing our BTEC online support resources and quickly locating the contact details of Regional Quality Managers in the online map.

## BTEC WORKSKILLS LEAD INTERNAL VERIFIER STANDARDISATION

The OSCA II standardisation of WorkSkills lead internal verifiers is now into its third window. To date, 158 of 238 centres have passed the exercises and now have accredited lead verifier status for three years.

We have extended the end deadline of Window 3 to close on 4 June, so there is still time to get registered as a user and complete the exercises if you have not done so already! It is only worth doing now if you have current and live registrations that need to be certificated.

Some key points to note are that:

- your exams officer or quality nominee is the person within your centre that needs to set you up with access to OSCA II

- the assessment materials and lead verifier commentary form one document on OSCA II and should be printed off together for use
- the online system logs out after a period of 10 minutes of inactivity - we advise that the exercises are printed off to complete in full separately and that all of the answers be inputted online during the same session
- you can revisit your answers as many times as you wish within the open window period, but do note that your selection of responses on the final day of the window will be the ones submitted for assessment
- whilst there is space for comments in the online standardisation, the responses are automatically marked against a benchmark score at the end of the window which is not based upon the comments inputted
- if you are not successful in obtaining accreditation as a lead internal verifier then a standards verifier will be assigned to your centre to arrange sampling - you can attempt OSCA II once again in the coming academic year.

## **IMPORTANT NEWS ON SAMPLE ASSESSMENT MATERIAL FOR OSCA FROM SEPTEMBER 2010**

Centres often ask about where they can see samples of learner work. From September 2009 we are further extending the range of materials available through the OSCA system for BTEC. OSCA is the online support service for centres that provides real examples of assignment briefs used by centres and real learner work that has been assessed by centre assessors. The system is currently used for BTEC First and National programmes. OSCA helps to demonstrate to centres the national standard and assures accuracy and consistency of assessment decisions. Programme teams are encouraged to download the learner work and associated verifier commentaries in order to gain a better understanding of the requirements of the relevant specification, and of 'best practice' in terms of internal assessment. OSCA materials can also be used for practice internal standardisation activities and staff training. Every centre delivering BTEC First and National qualifications should access the materials. They will be particularly useful for centres running new programmes and where new programme teams are in place.

## **ASSESSMENT ASSOCIATE MONITORING**

### **What do you think of your EV?**

We continuously monitor the performance of our external verifiers (EVs), external examiners (EEs) and risk assessors (RAs) and we rely on centres to let us know what they think of them. We sample a quarter of the BTEC EVs, EEs and RAs every year and we are approaching the end of the EV activity for NQF 2-3 and Entry and Introductory programmes. If your EV is in the sample this year, your Quality Nominee (QN) will have received an email, which they should have passed onto relevant programme leaders. The feedback focuses on communication, adherence to NSS procedures and professionalism when dealing with you.

We want to improve the quality assurance process and so much is dependent on the EV who undertakes this work, which is why we ask for your help. Please spend a few minutes filling in the e-feedback form, which is located on Edexcel Online - see under BTEC, External Verification, Performance Feedback - then follow the instructions. It's easy and quick, and please be assured that your feedback is confidential and won't affect the outcomes of NSS. We want to hear the good news as well as the not-so-good news and all feedback is considered.

If your EV is not in the formal sample this year, you can still feed back on performance. Please contact [BTECAAMonitoring@edexcel.com](mailto:BTECAAMonitoring@edexcel.com) and we will send you a form to complete.

Thank you to all centres who have already given feedback, and to everyone who contributed their feedback to the Risk Assessor review, which took place recently. We are appreciative of your help in improving the quality of what we do.

To find out more about AA monitoring, see the following link:

<http://www.edexcel.com/iwantto/Pages/aa-mon.aspx>.

### Deferrals

To ensure your centre gets the BTEC NQF 2/3 learner certificates when expected, the certification status of each programme can be checked on Edexcel Online before the claim is made. Your internal Edexcel Online administrator will be able to view this or give you access if appropriate to the area of Edexcel Online - BTEC > External Verification > Level 2/3 (1-3 Short Course).

Where the report status shows "Released", certificates will be issued when claimed and learners are eligible as the external verifier has allowed certification for the programme. Where the report status is "Outstanding", the National Standards Sampling is yet to be completed and certificates are not able to be issued. Where the report status is "Blocked", further sampling by the external verifier is required.



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