

# BTEC Bulletin

## Issue 38

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### BTEC LAUNCH BRIEFINGS

To help keep you informed about the re-accreditation of the Level 2 BTEC Firsts and Level 3 BTEC Nationals for implementation from 1 September 2010, we will be holding a number of half-day launch briefings. These are available at different locations across the country and - due to popular demand - online, which means that centre staff do not need to worry about travelling to a venue or finding a parking space! For the events we held in May and June this year it was clear that some course teams participated online as a team.

More details of these briefings, which are sector-specific - focusing on the Level 2 and 3 BTECs within a particular industrial or business sector and the new QCF (Qualifications and Credit Framework) specification - can be found here along with booking details:

<http://www.edexcel.com/notices/Pages/btec-specific.aspx>.

## RE-DEVELOPMENT UNDERWAY FOR THE BTEC HIGHER NATIONALS

Work is just starting in re-developing the BTEC HNCs and HNDs for accreditation on to the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) for implementation from September 2010. An update on which titles are involved and on the design principles can be accessed [here](#).

We have had confirmation of extensions to the accreditation for the majority of BTEC HNCs and HNDs to 31 December 2010. This means that for these qualifications, approved centres may register learners on the current NOF specifications up to 31 December 2010. Please check via this link for a list of the extensions confirmed: <http://www.edexcel.com/notices/Pages/hnaccreditation.aspx>.

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

Very nearly all of the BTEC Specialist and Short Course qualifications which were due to expire in terms of accreditation during 2009 have been given extensions to their accreditation to 2010 in collaboration with the various Sector Skills Councils, and will now expire in either August or December 2010. The website accreditation information, located within the specific pages for each of the BTEC Short Course qualifications, has been updated.

The very latest overview information regarding these extensions to BTEC Short Courses can be accessed [here](#). 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 completing a review of our entire suite of over 300 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 and the decisions made will be published shortly, and the outcomes will be made known in the same document mentioned in the previous paragraph. For qualifications which Edexcel has decided not to seek re-development or re-accreditation for, we will be writing to approved centres during the next 2-3 weeks.

## NEW BTEC QUALIFICATIONS IN SAILING AND WATERSPORTS NOW ACCREDITED

We are pleased to announce that new BTEC qualifications in Sailing and Watersports have been accredited and are available for first teaching from September 2009. Specifications for these new BTEC qualifications can be found on the following pages of our website:

Level 2: <http://www.edexcel.com/quals/btec-sc/sport/lvl2/sail-ws/Pages/default.aspx>

Level 3: <http://www.edexcel.com/quals/btec-sc/sport/lvl3/sail-ws/Pages/default.aspx>

## BTEC ENTRY, BTEC INTRODUCTORY QUALIFICATIONS AND FOUNDATION LEARNING

BTEC Entry Level Certificates in Skills for Working Life and BTEC Entry Level Certificates in Life Skills, and the Level 1 BTEC Introductory qualifications have been extended in terms of accreditation to 31 August 2010. Approved centres can register learners for both suites up until this date (please note that final certification end dates are 31 August 2012 for the BTEC Entry Level qualifications, and 31 August 2011 for the BTEC Introductory qualifications).

Foundation Learning/Foundation Learning Tier (FLT) is a Government initiative for all provision on the Qualification and Credit Framework (QCF) at Entry level and Level 1, consisting of three components:

- Personal and Social Development skills (our provision includes the popular BTEC WorkSkills suite)
- Vocational learning (BTEC Entry level 3 and Level 1 vocational units)
- Functional Skills (part of the national pilot, at Entry level and Level 1).

For more information about FLT, please visit our web pages at [www.edexcel.com/flt](http://www.edexcel.com/flt).

## PLEASE REMEMBER TO UPDATE YOUR CENTRE'S BTEC QUALITY NOMINEE DETAILS

In order to do this the Edexcel Online (EOL) centre administrator (normally the Examinations Officer) will need to log on to EOL and follow the instructions below:

1. Hover the cursor over 'Centre Accounts' and then click on 'List Accounts'
2. Click on the email address for whom you want to be the BTEC Quality Nominee for your centre
3. You will find a Quality Nominee tick box underneath the job role. Once you tick the box and press 'Submit' at the bottom of the page the Quality Nominee details will be updated.

Should you have any issues with this then please email [BTECdelivery@edexcel.com](mailto:BTECdelivery@edexcel.com).

## FEEDBACK ON BTEC / VOCATIONAL TESTS

There is now a dedicated email address for feedback related to BTEC tests. These include tests for our technical certificates, Security suite of qualifications, Transporting Passengers by Bus and Coach and Transporting Passengers by Taxi and Private Hire. Queries or comments related to test content should be sent to [btectestfeedback@edexcel.com](mailto:btectestfeedback@edexcel.com).

Please note that this email address should not be used for general enquiries or onscreen testing issues. The telephone number for BTEC enquiries is 0844 576 0026. Onscreen testing issues should be sent to [serviceoperations@edexcel.com](mailto:serviceoperations@edexcel.com) or by telephoning 0844 576 0024 and selecting option 1.

## CALLING ALL BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATION CENTRES

Edexcel has worked with the Institute of Professional Administrators (IPA) over the last couple of months to ensure that our business and administration qualifications are entry routes into membership of the Institute.



If any of your students complete the following qualifications, they can apply to be a member and continue with their learning and development.

Level	Title	Level of Membership
Level 5	BTEC Higher National Certificate/Diploma in Business	Full Membership
Level 3	BTEC Award/Certificate/Diploma in Business Administration	Affiliate Membership
Level 3	BTEC National Award/Certificate/Diploma in Business	Affiliate Membership
Level 2	BTEC Award/Certificate/Diploma in Business Administration	Student Membership
Level 2	BTEC First Certificate/Diploma in Business	Student Membership

As an Edexcel centre, you can also offer your students a preferential rate of membership for just £45 per year (usually £60 per year) if they use the promotional code EDX09 on their application form, which can be downloaded from the website [www.inprad.org](http://www.inprad.org). Benefits of membership include:

- official membership card and certificate
- designatory letters such as AffIPA after your name
- discounts off high street brands with our rewards programme
- access to the IPA mentoring scheme
- use of the IPA CPD scheme, recognising member learning and development
- a quarterly magazine, The Professional Administrator, with hints, tips and advice
- invitations to regional events for networking and seminars

If you would like to get marketing materials for your students or wish to discuss opportunities further, please contact Kerrie Fuller, Membership Manager at [Kerrie.Fuller@inprad.org](mailto:Kerrie.Fuller@inprad.org).

## HAVE YOUR STUDENTS JUST COMPLETED THEIR BTEC QUALIFICATION?

If they log on to our BTEC Progression Survey and tell us their future plans they could win an ipod!\*

Given the importance of BTEC qualifications to the 14-19 agenda, and concerns about where they are best positioned in the future, Edexcel is keen to undertake some substantive research to find out more about their impact on learner progression. We aim to explore the impact their achievement has had on learners' success in moving onto further study, or moving into employment. We would also like to hear their views about how the skills and knowledge gained through their studies have helped them in their transition.

We want to invite students who have just completed a BTEC qualification to take part in a quick online survey, and we have commissioned [Basis Research](#) to carry out more in-depth telephone interviews for those students who volunteer to be contacted. Prizes will be available for those taking part in either stage.

If you would like your students to be involved please contact Siân Owen ([sian.owen@edexcel.com](mailto:sian.owen@edexcel.com), 0207 190 7340) for hard copies of flyers which can be given to your students.

\* Terms and conditions apply

## THANKS FOR YOUR HELP

Thanks to all of you who have given us feedback on the performance of your External Verifiers, Risk Assessors or External Examiners during 2008/9. Without your help we wouldn't have the comprehensive picture of the work carried out by the EVs, RAs and EEs that we need to review the quality assurance process across the range of BTEC qualifications. Many thanks to all centres who have helped with this and we hope that you will continue to support this quality initiative in the forthcoming year. If you have any questions about the process, please contact [BTECAAMonitoring@edexcel.com](mailto:BTECAAMonitoring@edexcel.com).



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