

New NOCN qualifications

NOCN has been working hard developing new qualifications to meet the needs of our centres and learners.

The first two suites to be completed and ready to register learners are Entry 1 Personal Progress and Level 2 Employability. Brief details are given below. Qualification Guides and other information can be found on the NOCN website under QCF Qualifications at <http://www.nocn.org.uk/qualifications/qcf-qualifications>

Employability

Who is it for?

The Level 2 Employability qualifications are for learners age 16+ who are entering or would like to enter employment.

Sizes

Award (3 credits) and Certificate (13 credits)

Features

- Focuses on generic, transferable work skills relevant to a wide range of occupations and sectors
- Can be used with Deloitte Employability Initiative
- Suitable for those who need an intensive preparation for employment

Personal Progression

Who is it for?

The Entry 1 Personal Progression qualifications are for learners age 14+ working at Entry 1 or below - in particular those with learning difficulties and disabilities.

Sizes

Award (8 credits), Certificate (14 credits) and Diploma (37 credits).

Features

- Developed in response to requests from schools, colleges, voluntary organisations, etc

- Assessed via the ten-point Entry 1 Achievement Continuum using NOCN principles
- Takes a holistic view of the lives and needs of people with disabilities
- Supports the aims and principles of government strategy on independent living

Access to HE toolkit launched

A new countrywide Access to HE multimedia toolkit was launched by a South West consortium in the summer. It is designed for use by careers advisors, admissions tutors and marketing departments in colleges.

Student stories

The toolkit offers a selection of student stories showing the diversity and life experiences of people studying Access to HE courses. Funded and managed by Aimhigher West Area Partnership, City of Bristol College and Western Vocational Lifelong Learning Network, the toolkit is on YouTube and at www.access-students.org.uk >>.

It includes a 13 minute movie of five individual student interviews plus a short overview.

The toolkit was funded and managed by AimHigher West Area Partnership, City of Bristol College, and Western Vocational Lifelong Learning Network.

Power and integrity

Elizabeth Garton, Aimhigher West Area Partnership Manager, said: 'Aimhigher provides information about the range of routes into higher education. We've supplemented basic course information with a handful of student experiences, giving the resulting messages greater power and integrity.'

Functional Skills

Join the pilot

It's still possible for centres to join the Functional Skills trial – see

<http://www.ocnswr.org.uk/page/18766> for information.

Free training

NOCN have provided free training for centres delivering NOCN Functional Skills. Because of the popularity of the events, additional sessions have been arranged – the final one is in Hereford on Monday 18 January 2010. See <http://www.ocnswr.org.uk/page/18767>

Assessment and sample papers

NOCN now has a full range of sample papers, from Entry 3 to Level 2. To see these and other information about NOCN Functional Skills, go to <http://www.nocn.org.uk/learning-providers/functional-skills>

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