

## Ofcom pack supports Entry 3 Media Literacy

**NOCN's new Entry 3 Award and Certificate in Media Literacy have the support of Ofcom, the independent regulator for UK communications.**

The qualifications were developed jointly by Ofcom and NOCN, and Ofcom has produced a free pack to support tutors delivering them.

The QCF qualifications introduce learners aged 14 plus to the media, and aim to help learners engage with, question and interpret the information presented to them in the media.

Both qualifications are listed as vocational options in the Foundation Learning catalogue.

### **Switch On!**

*Switch on!* is Ofcom's media literacy pack for those teaching learners with learning difficulties and disabilities, although – like the Media Literacy qualifications - it can be used more widely.

Research has shown that people with learning disabilities watch more television and films on DVD than other people, so the qualifications and support pack concentrate mainly on moving image media.

### **Local trials of support pack**

The high quality content of *Switch On!* is the result of development work in pilots in five centres nationally during 2008-9. Two of the centres were in the South West - Bidwell Brook School in Totnes and South Devon College.

### **The qualification details**

Seven two-credit units are available to make up the qualifications. One unit is mandatory.

Six credits are needed for the Award – the mandatory unit plus two optional units. All seven units are needed for the 14 credit certificate.

The qualifications have seven and 28 SCAAT 'league table' performance points respectively.

The qualification guide and unit lists and content can be found on the NOCN website at: <http://www.nocn.org.uk/qualifications/qcf-qualifications>.

The free support pack can be found at [Switch On! - a media literacy learning resource](#)

## **QCF Progression Qualifications take over**

Most centres using the NOCN Progression Qualifications have switched to the new QCF Qualifications in Progression this year.

Because 'full level 2' status hadn't been confirmed for the QCF qualification at the start of the academic year, a few centres have continued to use the NQF NOCN Level 2 Diploma for Progression.

Although it is available for learner registrations until 30 December 2010, centres wanting a full level 2 Progression Qualification are advised to move to QCF Level 2 Certificate or Diploma in Progression from September. This is essential if ICT units are required – they are being withdrawn from the qualification from 31 August this year.

Both the QCF Level 2 Certificate (24 credits) and Diploma (45 credits) are full level 2 qualifications.

## **Be careful what you wish for!**

The course title you give OCNSWR when you register learners will be printed on learners' certificates. With national qualifications such as Step-UP or Qualifications in Progression both the course title and the qualification name are printed.

Choose the course title carefully – try to think of a title that will convey a positive message to those who may see the certificates.

**For more information contact your Development Manager**

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