

The National Flagship Assessors and EPA Conference

13 June 2019,
Marriott Hotel, Leicester

FAB Training Courses

Please click [here](#) to access the full list of training courses and to register.

- [Introduction to developing vocational qualifications](#)
10:15 – 16:30, 07.02.2019
- [Introduction to the awarding sector](#)
10:15 – 16:30, 05.03.2019
- [Introduction to malpractice investigation management \(Day 1\)](#)
10:15 – 16:30, 03.04.2019
- [Handling enquiries, complaints and appeals](#)
10:15 – 16:30, 30.04.2019
- [Multiple Choice Question Writing](#)
10:15 – 16:30, 21.05.2019
- [Malpractice investigation interviewing and management \(Day 2\)](#)
10:15 – 16:30, 12.06.2019

FAB Meetings/Events

Please click [here](#) to access the full list of meetings and events and to register.

- [Apprenticeship Group](#)
14:00 – 16:15, 30.01.2019

External Events

Please click [here](#) to access the full list of external events and to register.

- [WFP: The future for LEPs: boosting performance, increasing accountability and developing Local Industrial Strategies](#)
09:00 – 13:00, 29.01.2019
- [WFP: Latest developments in improving educational attainment and social mobility](#)
09:00 – 13:00, 14.02.2019

In this Update: 18 January 2019

(Click a title below to go straight to a particular article)

- [Expressions of interest – Round Table Event with the Special Advisor to the Secretary of State for Education](#)
- [Ofqual Conference 2019 – confirmed speakers](#)
- [Ofqual Portal information on amending and withdrawing qualifications and scope of recognition](#)
- [QW-CC-19-1 – Qualifications Wales letter regarding qualification specific recognition criteria](#)
- [Deadline extension: VQ data collection in Wales](#)
- [Power Engineering qualifications in NI- expressions of interest](#)
- [Education Committee – accountability hearing with Damian Hinds](#)
- [Updated information – Introduction of T levels](#)
- [T level provider expressions of interest for 2021 to 2022](#)
- [T Levels – implementation plan guidance and template](#)
- [Fire It Up – the new apprenticeships campaign](#)
- [External quality assurance of end-point assessments: status](#)
- [ESFA Director of Funding appointment](#)
- [Ofsted Education inspection framework: draft for consultation](#)
- [Basic Digital Skills – Consultation responses](#)
- [OECD Key publications on education and skills coming up in 2019](#)
- [School leavers feel ‘pushed’ down university route](#)
- [OCR Policy Briefing](#)
- [Pearson’s Policy Watch](#)
- [Dysg eNewsletter](#)

Expressions of interest – Round Table Event with the Special Advisor to the Secretary of State for Education

Following a successful round table event in December 2018 with Jon Yates, Special Advisor to Damian Hinds, we are pleased to be able to confirm another event has been confirmed for 24 May 2019 (2-3.30pm) in London.

The event will provide members with an opportunity to share their views on a range of technical education issues with Jon. We will develop the agenda nearer the time.

We anticipate interest in this event will outnumber the places available, so members are invited to express their interest in attending the event, in the first instance, by 8 February 2019, here: [Expressions of interest – Round Table Event with special advisor to the Secretary of State for Education](#).

Places will be allocated to ensure all membership bands are represented (3 per band) which will include a maximum of two FAB Board directors. Any remaining places will be assigned on a first come first served basis. We are currently

FAB Webinars

Information/training on topics related to vocational education and training. Free for staff from FAB member organisations and £100 (ex VAT) non-members, unless otherwise indicated.

- *TBC*

Watch it again

Please click the links below to view recordings of past FAB webinars. Membership login details will be required:

- **Public procurement: the essentials**
29 August 2018
(10:15 – 11:00)
- **Safeguarding in AOs**
27 June 2018
(10:15 – 11:00)
- **Fake certificates and 'borrowed' qualification content**
23 May 2018
(10:15 – 11:00)
- **Qualifications and Copyright**
17 January 2018
(10:15 – 11:15)
- **Ensuring a fit for purpose complaints process**
29 November 2017
(10:15 – 11:15)

For recordings of more past webinars click [here](#).

FAB Consultant and Supplier List

Looking for a supplier or consultant? **Search** [here](#).

FAB Legal Support Package

Looking for legal services? **Click** [here](#).

FAB Business Support Services

In partnership with QDOS HR, tax, health & safety and legal advice.

Click [here](#)

confirming the number of places with DfE but we anticipate being able to offer approximately 15 places to members.

We will contact you shortly after 08 February to confirm if we are able to offer you a place or not. If you previously applied for a place at the December event, please do apply again for the May event.

Ofqual Conference 2019 – confirmed speakers

Ofqual has confirmed that Steph McGovern (Journalist and BBC television presenter) will Chair the Ofqual 2019 conference. The following key note speakers have also been confirmed:

- Professor Prue Huddleston, Warwick University
- Dr Neil Bentley OBE, Chief Executive, WorldSkills UK

The conference will be held on Tuesday 26 March 2019 at The Oculus, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7AL. To register your place, please follow this [link](#). Please note, spaces are limited to two representatives per awarding organisation.

Ofqual Portal information on amending and withdrawing qualifications and scope of recognition

Ofqual has published information on the Portal in response to questions awarding organisations often ask about how they should amend, review or withdraw qualifications from the register. Ofqual has provided this information to help AOs to understand its requirements and processes. Information is provided in response to a number of questions, including:

1. How do I amend my scope of recognition?
2. Will an amendment to a qualification result in a new QN?
3. When amending a qualification, can we just withdraw the qualification and replace it with the amended version or do we need to let Ofqual know under condition D7 that we intend to withdraw? How does this affect funding/performance points?
4. How do I withdraw a qualification?
5. I no longer offer a qualification in England but will continue to offer the qualification in Northern Ireland, what do I need to do?

Members are advised to access this information on the Portal.

QW-CC-19-1 – Qualifications Wales letter regarding qualification specific recognition criteria

Qualifications Wales (QW) has issued a letter to responsible officers which sets out its plans in relation to qualification specific recognition criteria for GCSE and GCE qualifications. QW believes that introducing such criteria and establishing an appropriate process for application will provide clarity and transparency for awarding bodies on the steps to take if they wish to apply for recognition to offer GCSE and GCE qualifications in Wales in future.

The letter confirms that draft criteria for recognition to offer GCSE and GCE qualifications in Wales will be published later this month. Any awarding body wishing to award GCSE and GCE qualifications in Wales will be required to meet these criteria.

The letter can be found here: [QW-CC-19-1](#).

Jobs at

www.awarding.org.uk

- **Customer Support Advisors**
AAT
Closes 21.01.19
- **Sales Team Members- Two permanent and one 12 month fixed term contract**
AAT
Closes 21.01.19
- **Assistant Product Manager (Accounting Qualifications)**
AAT
Closes 21.01.19
- **Assessment Co-ordinator**
AAT
Closes 21.01.19
- **Executive Assistant to Chief Executive Officer**
Gateway Qualifications
Closes 21.01.19
- **Product Development Assistant**
NOCN
Closes 21.01.19
- **Project manager**
National Council for the Training of Journalists
Closes 21.01.19
- **Development Manager**
City and Guilds
Closes 23.01.19
- **Senior Product Developer**
English Speaking Board (International) Ltd.
Closes 24.01.19
- **Becoming a Member of APM's Senior Examiner Team**
APM
Closes 25.01.19
- **Compliance and Risk Manager**
ABE
Closes 25.01.19
- **Question writers and reviewers - Hospitality**
Innovate Awarding
Closes 28.01.19
- **Regional Account Manager (London North)**
AAT
Closes 28.01.19

Deadline extension: VQ data collection in Wales

Qualifications Wales has emailed awarding organisations to confirm an extension in the deadline for submitting Vocational Qualification Quarter 4 data. Originally the deadline was 18 January 2019 but following a number of issues regarding the type 2 template and data uploading it has now been extended to Friday 25 January.

If you have already submitted data successfully through the portal, you can disregard the email from Qualifications Wales. If you have submitted data but are concerned that the template error may have caused qualifications to be omitted from your submission, the system will allow you to resubmit once the templates have been repopulated.

Power Engineering qualifications in NI- expressions of interest

CCEA Regulation would be interested to receive expressions of interest from awarding organisations (AOs) in relation to Power Engineering qualifications in Northern Ireland. AOs do not need to be currently offering Power Engineering qualifications in NI but may be interested in working collaboratively to refresh existing qualifications as a result of changes to the Power Frameworks.

EU Skills will be leading on this and they will be holding an awarding organisation briefing on 31 January at Energy and Utility Skills, Friars Gate, Solihull, B90 4BN. Interested AOs should contact cheathwood@ccea.org.uk in the first instance.

Education Committee – accountability hearing with Damian Hinds

This week, the Education Committee held an accountability hearing with Damian Hinds MP, Secretary of State, Department for Education (DfE), and Jonathan Slater, Permanent Secretary, DfE.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, the session began with a question on no-deal preparations within the DfE. The session covered a wide range of other areas including: oversight of the Careers & Enterprise Company (CEC) and the need for impartial careers advice and guidance for young people; whether the SoS agreed with IfA that there would be an overspend of the apprenticeship levy; rebadging of expensive courses as apprenticeships and DfE action to enforce the Baker Clause.

Members can view the session here: [Education Committee – accountability hearing with Damian Hinds](#).

Updated information – Introduction of T levels

The Department for Education (DfE) has published updated information on the introduction of T levels, how T levels fit with other post-GCSE choices, the structure, funding and grading.

This information confirms that the overall grading for T levels will be pass/merit/distinction.

Further information can be found here: [Introduction of T levels](#).

T level provider expressions of interest for 2021 to 2022

The Department for Education (DfE) has begun the process to identify the next group of providers to deliver T Levels in academic year 2021 to 2022 and has published information setting out [how institutions meeting set criteria can express an interest to deliver T Levels in academic year 2021 to 2022](#).

All institutions wishing to express an interest must complete and submit an expression of interest to ESFA, by midnight on 28 February 2019.

Jobs at

www.awarding.org.uk

- **Programme Manager, Apprenticeships**
The London Institute of Banking and Finance
Closes 28.01.19
- **Assessment Manager**
Propertymark
Qualifications
Closes 28.01.19
- **Functional Skills Officer**
Open Awards
Closes 29.01.19
- **Examiner and Assessment Writers**
ICB
Closes 31.01.19
- **External Quality Assurer (South East)**
NOCN
Closes 31.01.19
- **External Quality Assurer (Youth Work)**
NOCN
Closes 31.01.19
- **Principal Examiner Opportunities - Business Economics**
NCC Education
Closes 31.01.19
- **Functional Skills Maths Level 1 and 2 Writer / Reviewer**
Skillsfirst Awards Ltd
Closes 31.01.19
- **Corporate Customer Service Manager**
Highfield Qualifications
Closes 31.01.19
- **Examiner, Lead Examiner and Chief Examiner Roles**
NCFE
Closes 31.01.19
- **Examiner - Tourism & Hospitality Management Programmes**
CTH (Confederation of Tourism & Hospitality)
Closes 31.01.19
- **Subject Matter Expert - SCQF Credit and Levelling Setter**
CMI
Closes 01.02.19

The document confirms that work is still in progress “with the sector to gather existing good practice on transition programmes and to develop principles and models of delivery. We are working with T Level 2020 providers on development of the transition offer and exploring with them how and when the transition offer might start to be delivered.”

The document also includes information on criteria for identifying ‘Qualifying students’ i.e. those that might be in scope for a T Level which includes “students who are enrolled on a level 3 programme, with a vocational core aim, which is within the SSA(s) relevant to the T Levels (see table 1) that will be available for delivery in the 2021 to 2022 academic year (and is of a relevant qualification type).”

Information is also provided on relevant qualification types used to identify qualifying students

Further information can be found here: [T Levels – how to express an interest to deliver in 2021 to 2022 academic year, including the transition offer.](#)

T Levels – implementation plan guidance and template

The Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) has published the T Level implementation plan template and guidance on how to complete it for any provider considering expressing an interest to deliver T Levels in academic year 2021 to 2022. These documents provide an overview of the T Level implementation plan process and guidance on how to complete the template. This guidance is for information.

Further information can be found here: [T Levels – implementation plan guidance and template.](#)

Fire It Up – the new apprenticeships campaign

The Department for Education (DfE) has launched a new toolkit to support the new ‘Fire It Up’ campaign which started on Thursday 17th January 2019. The campaign aims to inspire and excite key groups and influencers about apprenticeships. For employers, it will be a rallying cry to offer an apprenticeship. For potential apprentices, it will be a rallying cry to ‘Fire It Up’ and ‘Blaze Your Own Career Trail’.

The toolkit can be found here: [Fire It Up.](#)

External quality assurance of end-point assessments: status

Ofqual has published an updated document to show the status of apprenticeship end-point assessments (EPAs) where Ofqual has been asked to provide external quality assurance.

Further information can be found here: [External quality assurance of end-point assessments: status.](#)

ESFA Director of Funding appointment

The Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) has announced the appointment of Kate Josephs as Director of Funding. Kate is currently Director of National Operations for Academies and Regional Delivery within the Department for Education (DfE). In her new role, which will commence in April 2019, she will lead and oversee the creation and operation of a single Funding Operations Centre of Excellence that is solely responsible for all schools, academies and post-16 funding. This includes the allocation of all schools and academies funding including the national funding formula, the post-16 funding agenda, apprenticeships funding and adults skills funding. She will be responsible for allocating over £58 billion of funding, representing one of the single biggest funding operations anywhere in government.

Jobs at

www.awarding.org.uk

- **Qualifications Support Officer**
ACCA
Closes 04.02.19
- **Head of Awarding, Research and Development**
Skills and Education Group
Closes 04.02.19
- **Standards and Frameworks Project Manager**
Lantra
Closes 04.02.19
- **Centre Support Administrative ;Assistant**
Skills and Education Group
Closes 04.02.19
- **Administrative Officer**
The Pensions Management Institute
Closes 08.02.19
- **Membership Account Executive of The Assessors Guild**
The Assessors Guild
Closes 08.02.19
- **Independent End-point Assessor - Investment**
City & Guilds
Closes 28.02.19
- **Client and Business Support Administrator**
Portico Consulting Ltd.
Closes 01.03.19
- **Examination markers and Assessors**
The Pensions Management Institute
Closes 04.03.19
- **Independent End-point Assessor - Commis Chef**
City & Guilds
Closes 30.03.19
- **Independent End-point Assessor - Healthcare**
City & Guilds
Closes 31.03.19

Further information can be found here: [Director of Funding appointment and new single Funding Operations Centre of Excellence.](#)

Ofsted Education inspection framework: draft for consultation

Ofsted has launched a consultation on the proposed education inspection framework for 2019 which sets out how Ofsted proposes to inspect schools, further education and skills provision and registered early years settings. It includes information on the grading scale that will be used and the areas in which inspectors will make graded judgements.

The consultation closes on 5 April 2019.

Further information can be found here: [Education inspection framework: draft for consultation.](#)

Basic Digital Skills – Consultation responses

In 2018, the Department for Education (DfE) and Ofqual each launched a consultation on Basic Digital Skills. The final consultation responses can be found here:

- [DfE – Improving Adult Basic Digital Skills](#)
- [Ofqual – Regulating Basic Digital Skills Qualifications](#)

OECD Key publications on education and skills coming up in 2019

Andreas Schleicher, Director, OECD Directorate for Education and Skills has published a blog to provide a useful overview of the OECD publication we can expect throughout 2019.

Further information can be found here: [OECD Key publications on education and skills coming up in 2019.](#)

School leavers feel ‘pushed’ down university route

Many young British students believe they are being pushed down the route of going to university, according to new research from AAT.

A survey of 1,500 recent school leavers has revealed that two thirds of their teachers were most likely to urge them down the path of higher education, along with 59 per cent of their parents.

The research findings include:

- Two in three teachers most likely to urge young people down path of higher education
- Three in five parents also likely to recommend university route, according to school leavers
- While seven in ten school leavers asked their parents directly what they thought they should do with their lives, only around one in eight actually followed the advice given.
- Thirty per cent said they asked their friends for advice, 24 per cent asked their favourite teacher, and 22 per cent asked a careers advisor.

Further information can be found here: [School leavers feel ‘pushed’ down university route.](#)

Jobs at

www.awarding.org.uk

- **Head of Learning Partnerships**
The Chartered Institute of Procurement & Supply
Closes 11.01.19
- **Independent End-point Assessor - Operational Delivery**
City & Guilds
Closes 31.03.19
- **Independent End-point Assessor - Property Maintenance**
City & Guilds
Closes 31.03.19
- **End-point Assessor (Business Administration)**
City & Guilds
Closes 31.01.19
- **Freelance Independent End-Point Assessors**
Skillsfirst Assess
Closes 28.06.19

OCR Policy Briefing

These updates are provided courtesy of OCR. FAB would like to extend its thanks to OCR for permitting the sharing of these with members.

- [Latest from OCR Policy Briefing](#)

Pearson's Policy Watch

These updates are provided courtesy of Pearson. FAB would like to extend its thanks to Pearson for permitting the sharing of these with members.

- [Latest from Policy Watch](#)

Dysg eNewsletter

These updates are provided courtesy of Dysg, part of the Welsh Assembly Government. FAB would like to extend its thanks to Dysg for permitting the sharing of these ebulletins with members. [Latest from Dysg eNewsletter \(Post-11\)](#)