

**Chief Executive's Office**

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Ria Bhatta  
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Pearson  
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06 September 2013

Dear Ria

**Re: Support for Level 3 BTEC Nationals in Health and Social Care**

We have been asked by Skills for Health to provide support for your level 3 health and social care qualifications listed below; a requirement which has been placed on awarding organisations such as Pearson by the Department for Education:

- Pearson BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Health and Social Care (QCF) – 500/9317/4
- Pearson BTEC Level 3 90-credit Diploma in Health and Social Care (QCF) - 600/6178/9
- Pearson BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care (QCF) – 500/9465/8
- Pearson BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care (QCF) – 500/9501/8

The Department of Health has a mandate with HEE detailing areas of work that HEE has to deliver. Several of the mandate items are around the development of care support workers into professional education and training, apprenticeships, and widening participation, and so we see these qualifications as a valuable alternative to GCEs as a progression route into HE for the sector and would not want to see them removed from the KS5 performance tables.

We recognise these qualifications as developing and confirming specialist knowledge and skills in the sector, to a standard that can be reasonably expected of an 18 year old in full

time education. The qualifications will give students an advantage when applying for related jobs, apprenticeships or training.

I am happy for a link to the Health Education England website to be made available on the DfE and Pearson websites to confirm our support for the qualifications.

Yours sincerely,



**Professor Ian Cumming, OBE**  
**Chief Executive**