

## Pearson BTEC Level 1 9-credit Award in Workskills (QCF)

**Qualification Number: 601/0688/8**

### Qualification overview

The Pearson BTEC Level 1 9-credit Award in Workskills (QCF) is a flexible qualification and the content can be adapted to the individual needs of the learner. There are no core units. All of the units are optional. The qualification is available to learners aged 14+, including adult learners. It is primarily designed for learners who are not currently in work, and who are undertaking short employability programmes. This includes two distinct groups:

- Those currently out of work who are looking to enter the workplace or an apprenticeship.
- Learners currently on other programmes, for example, a study programme at school or college.

There are no requirements of prior achievement for this qualification, it is open to everyone.

The Workskills qualifications are available in a variety of sizes, which allows employability programmes to be tailored to the needs of the individual. This enables learners to develop the skills they need while allowing them to enter the workplace, or their next step, in the time and at a pace that suits their particular learning needs.

### Primary outcome

The primary outcome of the Pearson BTEC 9-credit Award in Workskills is to provide targeted support to help learners break down any barriers that are preventing them engaging in work. These barriers can include:

- The need for skills development to gain employment.
- A lack of confidence, and an inability to see how existing strengths and skills can be used to secure employment.

The Pearson BTEC Level 1 9-credit Award in Workskills provides a programme which includes self assessment, support with job applications and the interview process, and skills to use at work, in order to support learners back into work.

### What the qualification leads to

The Pearson BTEC Level 1 9-credit Award in Workskills will enable learners to secure employment or an apprenticeship as generic skills will be developed and barriers to work broken down.

### Why a learner would take this qualification

There are a range of different sized qualifications available at level 1:

- Workskills Awards (3, 6 and 9 credits).
- Workskills Certificate (at 13 credits)

- Workskills Extended Certificate (at 18 credits)
- Workskills Diploma (at 37 credits).

The range of sizes available mean the learner is able to choose a qualification which meets their individual employability skills needs, and gives them the best possible chance of re-entering the workplace.

### **Why take the Level 1 9-credit Award?**

The Level 1 9-credit award is suitable for learners who need a short programme to develop employability skills in order to:

- Gain and stay in employment, or an apprenticeship.

#### *Employment and apprenticeships*

If an individual has been out of work for a while then they may need support in gaining employment or an apprenticeship, and with the skills needed to succeed at work or in an apprenticeship.

- The 9-credit award has the potential for both aspects to be developed. The size Award can include self assessment, searching for a job, interview skills, applying for a job to gain employment but also solving work related problems, self management skills and money management. This increases the probability of learners gaining sustainable employment.
- The smaller 6-credit award will not be able to do this in the time available, it will concentrate on either gaining or succeeding at work.
- The certificate-sized qualification on the other hand is appropriate for learners who need a wider range of employability skills to obtain and succeed at work and have the opportunity to undertake a longer programme.
- The extended certificate and diploma-sized qualifications are also available for learners who require a very wide range of employability skills in a longer programme.

### **Who supports the qualification?**

The Pearson BTEC Level 1 9-credit Award in Workskills is widely supported and it is used by a number of centres to support learners into employment. The following centres have indicated their support:

- Intraining
- Leicester College
- Mantra
- Avanta