



Pearson

# Workskills Update

October 2016

 Pearson





# Workskills Update - Content

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**03** The Background

---

**07** Current Provision

---

**13** The Identified Solution

---

**15** Actions for Customers

---

**18** Workskills from February 2017

---

**22** Questions

# The Background

# The Background – changes to frameworks

- Pearson developed a new version of Workskills that was based almost entirely on the previous credits model which worked successfully.
- The qualifications were developed in a new framework called the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) which supersedes the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) and the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF). The RQF is designed to support all types of qualification.
- There were two consequences of the changes that did not become apparent until very late on:  
Consequence 1: The RQF only has **minimum** Guided Learning Hours (GLH) whereas the QCF had a range. For qualifications with very flexible rule of combination this is an issue if you base the qualification on credits.  
Consequence 2 : The funding agencies/ performance tables/ time allocation in study programme are now based purely on GLH not overall qualification size/ credits.

# The Background – outcome

- The GLH of all of the new version of the Workskills qualifications is much lower than is needed to deliver the qualifications. This is because the units with a lower GLH: Credit ratio have been used for the calculation and **only minimum GLH is considered**.
- This leads to a variety of problems for centres including:
  - Lower funding for 19+ learners than is needed
  - Lower number of points for Welsh performance points
  - Misallocation of GLH in Study programme
  - Potential wrong allocation of teaching time

# Background – our initial actions

- We discussed the situation immediately with the relevant funding agencies for each age group (Education Funding Agency and Skills Funding Agency)
- An emergency extension of the 2011 version of Workskills was put into place until the end of 2016. The purpose of this was to ensure that provision was in place that all learners could access.
- We delayed the launch of the new version until the problems could be sorted out. This decision was communicated to customers towards the end of August.
- At the start of September we started working on identifying a solution that would work for all of our customers in the new framework.

# Current Provision

# Core Workskills (2011 Version)

QAN	Title	Credits
600/2395/8	Pearson BTEC Entry Level Award in Workskills (Entry 3) (QCF)	3
601/0689/X	Pearson BTEC Entry Level 6-credit Award in Workskills (Entry 3) (QCF)	6
601/0691/8	Pearson BTEC Entry Level 9-credit Award in Workskills (Entry 3) (QCF)	9
600/2392/2	Pearson BTEC Entry Level Certificate in Workskills (Entry 3) (QCF)	13
600/2393/4	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Award in Workskills (QCF)	3
601/0690/6	Pearson BTEC Level 1 6-credit Award in Workskills (QCF)	6
601/0688/8	Pearson BTEC Level 1 9-credit Award in Workskills (QCF)	9
600/2394/6	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Workskills (QCF)	13
600/2396/X	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Extended Certificate in Workskills (QCF)	18
600/2382/X	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Diploma in Workskills (QCF)	37
600/2292/9	Pearson BTEC Level 2 Award in Workskills (QCF)	3
601/0687/6	Pearson BTEC Level 2 6-credit Award in Workskills (QCF)	6
601/0686/4	Pearson BTEC Level 2 9-credit Award in Workskills (QCF)	9
600/2296/6	Pearson BTEC Level 2 Certificate in Workskills (QCF)	13
600/2380/6	Pearson BTEC Level 2 Extended Certificate in Workskills (QCF)	18
600/2383/1	Pearson BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Workskills (QCF)	37

# Wider Skills Suite

## Work Experience Awards (review date August 2020)

QAN	Title	Credits
600/6647/7	Pearson Edexcel Entry Level Award in Planning and Participating in Work Experience	6
600/6648/9	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Award in Planning and Participating in Work Experience	6
601/0758/3	Pearson BTEC Level 2 Award in Planning and Participating in Work Experience	6

## SEPE (review date August 2020)

QAN	Title	Credits
500/8754/X	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Award in Supporting Employability and Personal Effectiveness	5

# Wider Skills Suite

## Personal Behaviour for Success (review date August 2020)

QAN	Title	Credits
600/6573/4	Pearson Edexcel Entry Level Award in Personal Behaviour for Success (Entry 3)	3
600/6549/7	Pearson Edexcel Level 1 Award in Personal Behaviour for Success	3

## Enterprise Skills (review date December 2018)

QAN	Title	Credits
600/2920/1	Pearson BTEC Level 2 Award in Enterprise Skills	5
600/2921/3	Pearson BTEC Level 2 Certificate in Enterprise Skills	15
600/3034/3	Pearson BTEC Extended Certificate in Enterprise Skills	25

# Skilled for Life

Employability 'framework' consisting of over 200 qualifications and 1100 units. It concentrates on the following areas that research shows are key for gaining and succeeding in employment:

- English and maths - includes work-related units focusing on these key areas.
- Industry knowledge - a range of knowledge-based units designed to give learners a sound introduction to a specific vocational sector.
- Work experience - includes units designed to prepare learners for work and to help them make the most of their work experience placements.
- Skills for work - includes units with very practical outcomes, such as interview preparation, working in a team, applying for a job - and much more!
- Social and personal skills - these units examine behaviours and motivation, providing learners with strategies to develop the personal skills that will help them move into and remain in the workplace.

# Traineeship Bundles – WorkSkills content

Pearson BTEC Level 1 6-credit Award in WorkSkills (601/0690/6) 30-60 GLH

Unit Title:	Unit Code:	Unit Level:	Credit Value:
Literacy for the Workplace	L/504/4084	L1	1
Numeracy for the Workplace	T/504/4077	L1	1
Learning from Work Placement	J/503/2855	L1	2
Positive Attitudes and Behaviours at Work	L/503/2842	L1	1
Preparing for Work Placement	F/503/2854	L1	1

Pearson BTEC Level 1 9-credit Award in WorkSkills (601/0688/8) 60-90 GLH

Unit Title:	Unit Code:	Unit Level:	Credit Value:
Producing a CV	F/505/6930	EL3	2
Searching for a Job	D/503/2831	L1	1
Applying for a Job	H/503/2832	L1	1
Interview Skills	M/503/2834	L1	1
Preparing for an Interview	K/503/2833	L1	1
Positive Attitudes & Behaviours at Work	L/503/2842	L1	1
Managing your own Money	H/503/2829	L1	2



# **The Identified Solution**

# The solution

- The awarding of the qualifications will in the future be based on GLH and credits will be removed. This will at qualification level ensure that the Guided Learning Hours are correct and realistic for centres to deliver each qualification.
- The GLH **core Workskills** units will be reviewed and rounded to the nearest 5, for manageability purposes. There will be some units in the optional groups that do not fit into this model, however.
- The rule of combination will continue to be flexible, as planned with an optional group containing PSD and sector units in larger qualifications. The core standards in the units (Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria) will also remain the same.



## **Actions for Customers**

# Checks required

When the new version of the specification is made available at the end of November this will need checking in relation to the following:

- Ensure that the programme that you have put together provides enough GLH to achieve the qualification that you have identified. In some , but not all cases extra will be needed.
- Double-check that there have been no changes to assessment guidance.

The actual Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria will not be changed.

# Timeline

## OCTOBER 2016

All customers have received an update email with details of dates  
Webinars are taking place to update customers about the changes

## NOVEMBER 2016

Amendments will be made on the Portal  
The new specification will be available at the end of the month

## DECEMBER 2016

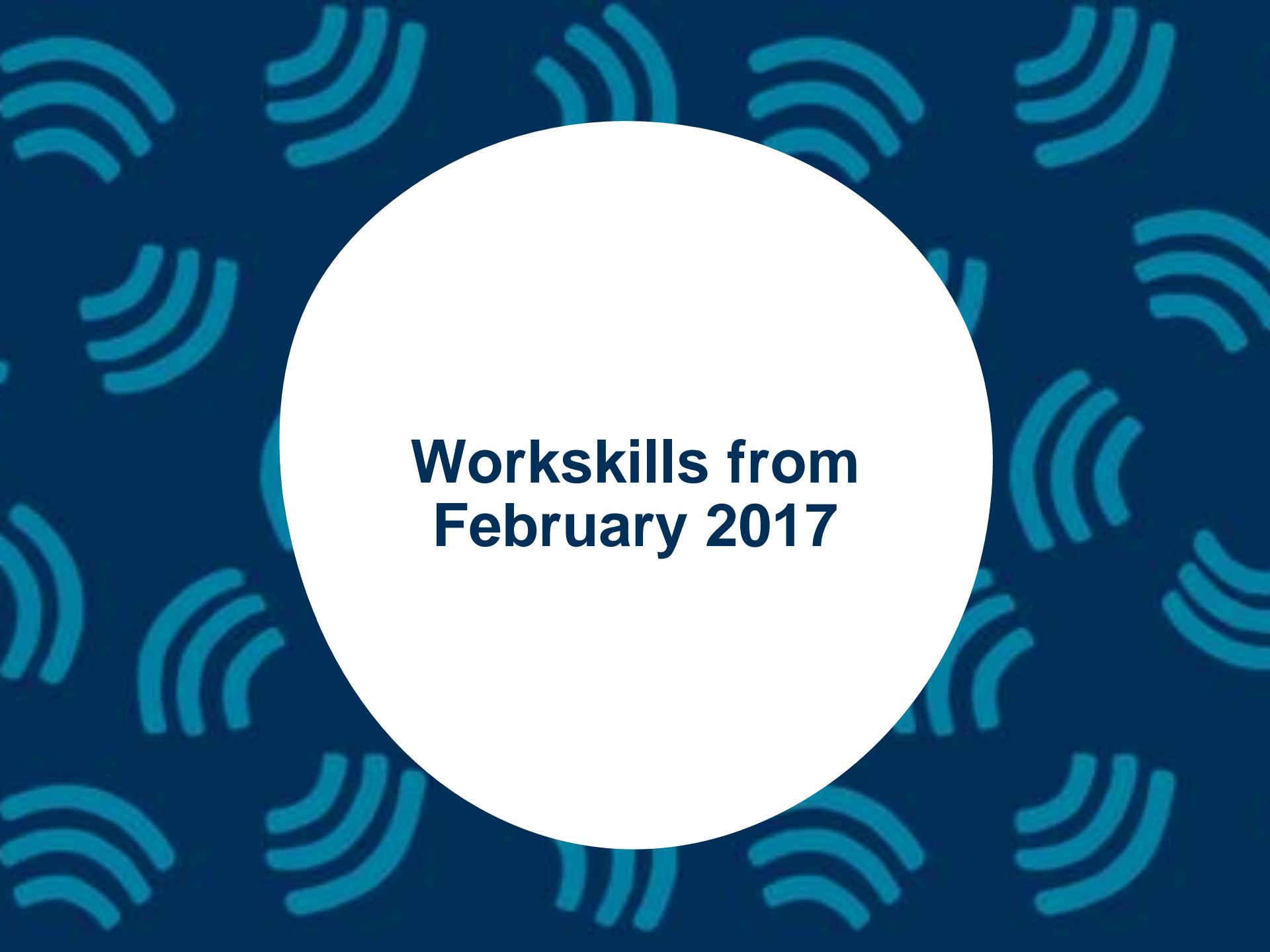
Sample assessments will be made available

## JANUARY 2017

Customer Training for those who have already attended launch events  
(webinars) and National training events

## FEBRUARY 2017

New version of Workskills will be made live 1.2.17



**Workskills from  
February 2017**

# Qualifications at each level

	AWARDS			CERTIFICATES		DIPLOMA
	30 GLH	70 GLH	95 GLH	130 GLH	200 GLH	400 GLH
Entry 3	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Level 1	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Level 2	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

# SFA 19+ Funding Rates

<b>Guided Learning Hours</b>	<b>SFA Funding Rate 2016/7</b>
30 Award	£150
70 Award	£450
95 Award	£600
130 Certificate	£724
200 Certificate	£1246
400 Diploma	£2573

# Support

- Free training will be provided at the start of the year (starting early January) to support centres in checking that they are ready to deliver. Details of this will be communicated in the next 2 weeks.
- We have already drafted some sample assignments that we will be able to finalise once the new specification is available. Further sample assignments will be developed, including holistic assignments covering more than one unit.
- Dedicated **Skills Subject Advisor** Melanie Williams. For queries about Workskills Melanie can be contacted on [teachingworksheets@pearson.com](mailto:teachingworksheets@pearson.com).
- Individual support and advice where requested in relation to building programmes of units both in Skilled for Life and Workskills.
- Pearson's Assignment checking service  
<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/support/Services/assignment-checking-service.html>

# Questions

# Frequently Asked Questions

How did Pearson not understand the guidance given by the DFE and manage to design something that wasn't fit for purpose?

The issue only affected 19+ learners so why couldn't you make the new specification available to everyone else?

Can we deliver the new specification now and then register our learners in February?

We have wasted time developing materials for a specification that will never be made live. What are you going to do to compensate me?

We stated that we were going to be delivering the new specification and parents are blaming the school for making a mistake?

Why was the decision to not release the new version not communicated to centres until the end of August? That was far too late.

# Frequently Asked Questions

We need the specification for February to be released **now** so that we are able to prepare for February. When will it be available?

Why am I having to go through OSCA now when in February all of the standards are going to change?

Why when we have been told that the current versions is being extended is the end date on the Website 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016?

Will my programme require additional units in order for it to be compliant with the new rules?

Will the published Activator Workbooks be updated in line with the new standards? What support will be in place?

When will the existing 2011 version of Workskills be open for registrations until?

# **There's so much more to learn**

Find out more about us at  
**[qualifications.pearson.com](https://www.pearson.com/qualifications)**

ALWAYS LEARNING