

The Future of Apprenticeships in England: Implementation plan

Announcement by DfE and BIS on 28th October 2013

This document draws together the questions we have been asked most frequently since the implementation announcement made by the DfE and BIS on 28th October 2013. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any additional questions you may have on **wbl@pearson.com**.

- Q. I currently offer BTEC Apprenticeships – how will the recent implementation announcements from BIS affect my approval?
- A. If you are already a Pearson centre your approval will still stand for the frameworks you currently deliver. For any new frameworks existing approval procedures apply.
- Q. I have learners registered for BTEC Apprenticeships – will the implementation announcement affect the programme they are currently on?
- A. No. There will be a transition period in which learners already registered on a framework will be able to complete. New registrations from 2017/18 will need to be on the new standards.
- Q. I am speaking to Employers in the next few weeks – which Apprenticeships are they likely to be using for their employees.
- A. The current SASE framework remains in place until full transition 2017/18, when all future registrations will be on the new standards.
- Q. How long will I be able to continue to offer the BTEC Apprenticeship?
- A. The BTEC Apprenticeship will remain throughout the transition period in its current format. Post implementation of the new apprenticeship standards (2017/18) there will be a redeveloped BTEC Apprenticeship to meet the revised standards.
- Q. I am interested in getting involved with the Trail Blazer Apprenticeships – how can I do this?
- A. Phase 1 of the Trailblazer is already in place, and will continue to evolve in 2013/14 & 2014/15. You can apply to take part in the next phase by contacting **apprenticeship.trailblazers@bis.gov.uk**
- Q. Is it worth starting an Apprenticeship if everything is changing?
- A. Yes. The current framework will be eligible up until full transition in 2017/18, when the new standards are fully implemented.
- Q. Within Business Skills and the Pan Sector, the main questions will be will there be a Pan Sector/Business Skills Trailblazer?
- A. Currently the Business sector is not included within phase 1 of the Trailblazers. However if you wish to be considered contact **apprenticeship.trailblazers@bis.gov.uk**
- Q. Are Functional Skills going to be replaced by GCSE for maths and English?
- A. Currently both Functional Skills and GCSE can be delivered as the maths and English components within an apprenticeship, and this will continue throughout the Trailblazer and transition period. From 2017/18 when full implementation of the standards commences, it is suggested that GCSE maths and English will be the preferred route. There has been no confirmation that Functional Skills will be discontinued at this stage. We will keep you posted as this picture evolves.

- Q. The implementation announcement does not make any mention of ICT. Does this mean it will not need to be delivered?
- A. Up until the full implementation of the new standards (2017/18) ICT will still be required where the SASE framework states. However we will continue to seek clarity on what will be required in the context of the new standards, and will ensure our customers are kept informed.
- Q. How can Pearson support our transition from current framework to new standards?
- A. Pearson can support you with all of your needs during this time of transition and beyond. Our website is an excellent source of updates on policy, funding and qualifications. You will also find all of the resources and support information to support your delivery of apprenticeships, sections on FAQs, Ask the Expert etc.

You can also contact your centres account manager who can offer face to face support, and our customer services are always on hand at the end of the telephone.

- Q. How can we get involved in the shaping of the new standards?
- A. By getting involved with the Trailblazer project by contacting **apprenticeship.trailblazers@bis.gov.uk**

Also by talking to us. Pearson want to hear from you and work with you to inform and develop the right programmes to meet the needs of both learners and organisations. Please contact us either via your account manager or **contact us**