Guideline to Pearson Qualifications at Level 1 and below

November 2023

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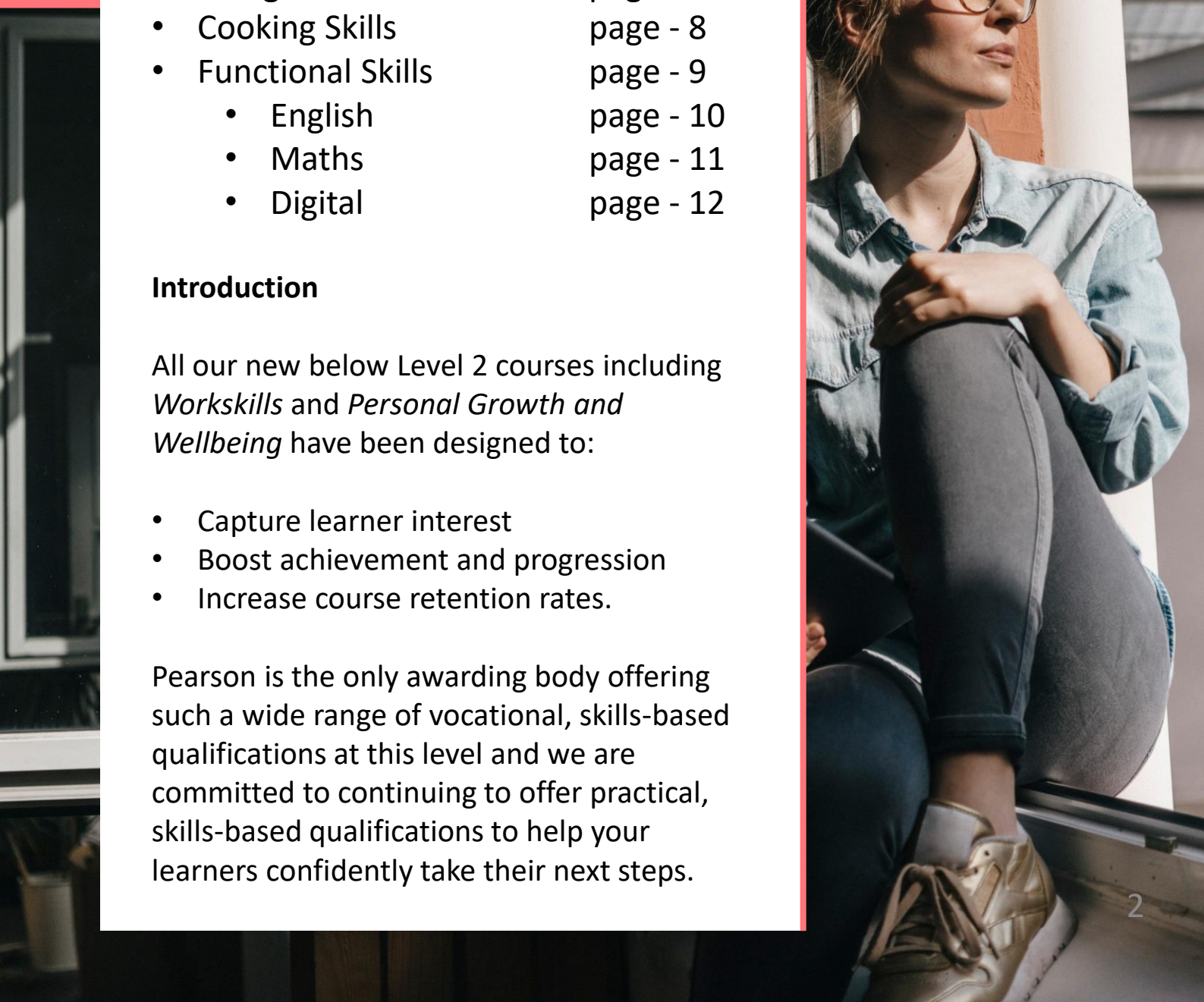
Introduction

All our new below Level 2 courses including *Workskills* and *Personal Growth and Wellbeing* have been designed to:

- Capture learner interest
- Boost achievement and progression
- Increase course retention rates.

Pearson is the only awarding body offering such a wide range of vocational, skills-based qualifications at this level and we are committed to continuing to offer practical, skills-based qualifications to help your learners confidently take their next steps.



BTEC Level 1 Introductory

Practical, graded, skills-based qualifications available across 16 industry sectors designed to give your learners the core skills they will need to progress to further study or employment.

Graded Pass, Merit or Distinction to motivate your learners and help you easily assess their potential.

Assessment is through a mix of common mandatory units and a choice of optional units giving you the flexibility to move learners between courses while they are on-programme.

Key teaching areas in each unit include the sector skills and knowledge required along with transferable skills, such as communication and managing information, and opportunities to develop functional skills. Course structure

Explore our flexible, Entry Level and Level 1 Introductory skills-based qualifications, designed to offer all your below-Level 2 learners the practical skills and confidence they will need to progress to independent living, further study or employment.

Take a fresh approach to skills-based learning

- **Capture learner interest** - practical skills-based activities that can be tailored around the needs and interests of your learners
- **Boost achievement and progression** - carefully planned, motivating qualifications, graded at Entry 3 and Level 1 so learners can see their own progress
- **Increase retention rates** - flexibility built in, so you can move learners across levels and sectors to maximise progression opportunities

Click on the relevant subject below to download your specifications and course materials.

BTEC Level 1 Introductory Qualifications

Explore BTEC Entry Level Qualifications

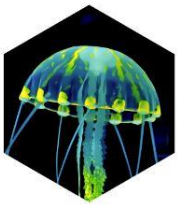
Pre-vocational Study Entry 1

Pre-vocational Study Entry 2

Vocational Study Entry 3

Skills-based qualifications at Entry Level 1, 2 and 3 are designed to help learners develop the personal and social skills needed to help them to progress to independent living, future employment or further vocational study.

Explore BTEC Level 1 Qualifications



Applied Science

Art and Design

Business

Caring for Children

Construction

Digital Media

Engineering

Hair and Beauty

Health and Social Care

Hospitality and Tourism

Information Technology

Land-Based Studies

Performing Arts

Public Services

Sport

Transport and Vehicle

Vocational Studies

Entry Level Certificate

The Entry Level Certificate is primarily targeted at 14- to 16-year-old students working at a level below that required for a grade 1 at GCSE.

It is designed as a one- or two-year course for learners at Entry Levels 1 to 3, either as a route towards GCSE or for learners who are unable to attain a GCSE at Foundation tier.

Subjects include English, Maths, Science and Further Science. Learn more here: Entry Level Certificate

English

Designed specifically to align with GCSE English Language and provide a progression route for low-attainers

Flexible content to provide maximum engagement

- **Supporting your lower attaining students with English (PDF)**

Maths

Available in both UK and international - Our Entry Level Certificate in Mathematics has specifically been designed to complement the GCSE (9–1) Mathematics qualification, enabling lower attainers to develop the underpinning mathematical skills and understanding to provide a progression route to GCSE Mathematics.

- **Supporting your lower attaining students with Mathematics (PDF)**

Science and Further Science

Designed specifically to align with GCSE Combined Science and provide a progression route for lower-attainers.

Helps to build confidence and engagement with science.

- **Supporting your lower attaining** students with science (PDF)

BTEC WorkSkills

WorkSkills are BTEC qualifications that are designed to develop learners' employability skills. These qualifications can either be delivered as a core programme or can be delivered as an enhancement to other programmes.

Please note:

- WorkSkills offers **a level 2** qualification.
- Pearson has created guidance to support pre-16 learners transferring from Functional Skills ICT to BTEC Workskills where they can take funded units to continue developing their ICT skills. **Read the guidance**.
- This Level 2 BTEC qualification can also be used as part of a **T Level Foundation Year package**.

Workskills supports 'The Gatsby Benchmark', which is the statutory Government advice for careers. Many of these benchmarks can be developed through the different Workskills unit combinations available to centres. **The 8 Benchmarks are:**

1. A stable careers programme
2. Learning from careers and labour market information
3. Addressing the needs of each student
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experiences of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance

Learn more about BTEC Workskills Qualifications:

- Entry Level 1 - Overview | Specification
- Entry Level 2 - Overview | Specification
- Entry Level 3 - Overview | Specification
- Level 1 - Overview | Specification
- Level 2 - Overview | Specification

BTEC Personal Growth and Well-Being

The Pearson BTEC Personal Growth and Wellbeing qualifications have been developed to meet the needs of all learners regardless of their age, stage or ability.

They have been designed to meet the requirements of the RSE (Relationship and Sexual Education) in England and Wales.

Our Personal Growth and Wellbeing suite reflects key principles that engage learners through practical activities, encourage learning ownership, provide opportunities for personal reflection and promote progression to further study and future employment.

Please note, **Personal Growth and Wellbeing (Level 2) – Wales**, is its own Award, designed with a different GLH of 72hrs, to suit the performance points in Wales.

For more information on **Personal Growth and Wellbeing Qualifications**, alongside the teaching support and materials Pearson offers:

- Visit: **quals.pearson.com/BTEC_PGW**
- Contact us: **pearson.com/uk/contact-us.html**

PGW Qualification Levels and Sizes

We have developed 3 levels of qualifications that reflect the distinct purposes in response to learners' age and stage of learning.

The sizes provide flexibility of delivery and support appropriate learner placement according to both their learning needs, mode of study and planned progression destinations.

- BTEC Level 1 in Personal Growth and Wellbeing
- BTEC Entry Level 3 in Personal Growth and Wellbeing
- BTEC Level 2 in Personal Growth and Wellbeing

Providing a holistic meaningful and engaging learning experience

Our PGW qualifications provide centres with a comprehensive curriculum when combined with other qualifications, as outlined below. These new qualifications are intended to complement and enhance the learning experience and form part of a wider offer of vocational learning.

Explore our flexible, Entry Level and Level 1 Introductory skills-based qualifications, designed to offer your learners the practical skills and confidence they will need to progress

- BTEC Entry Level 2 in Pre-vocational Study
- BTEC Entry Level 1 in Pre-vocational Study
- BTEC Entry Level 3 in Pre-vocational Study
- BTEC Level 1 Introductory

Cooking Skills

The Pearson **BTEC Level 1 and Level 2 Awards in Home Cooking Skills** are suitable for learners to develop:

- Knowledge, understanding and confidence to cook meals at home
- An understanding of how to economise when planning a meal
- An ability to transfer skills learned to different recipes
- An ability to inspire others by transferring that knowledge.

Progression opportunities through Pearson qualifications Learners who have achieved the **BTEC Level 1 Award in Home Cooking Skills** can progress on to the **BTEC Level 2 Award in Home Cooking Skills**.

The intended destinations for learners successfully achieving these qualifications include:

- GCSEs and/or A Levels
- Apprenticeships

BTEC specialist qualifications may also enhance learners' self-development by providing them with valuable life skills. Funding Qualifications eligible and funded for post-16-year-olds can be found on the funding Hub.

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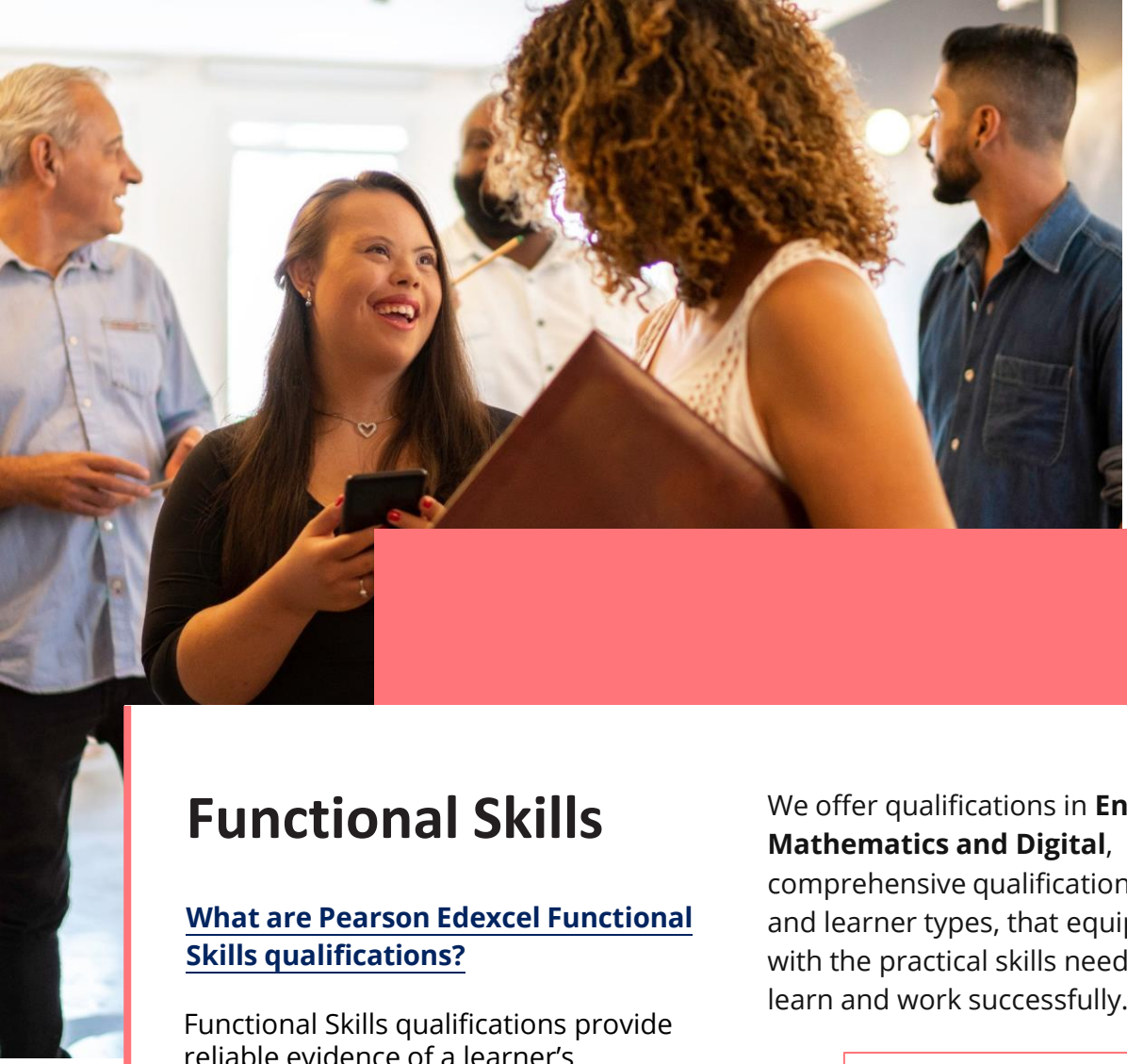


Functional Skills

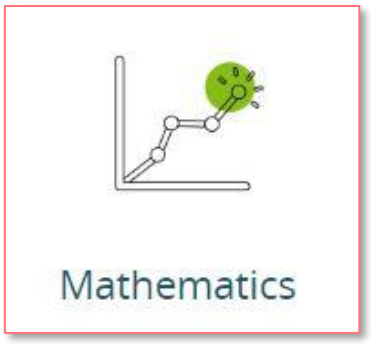
What are Pearson Edexcel Functional Skills qualifications?

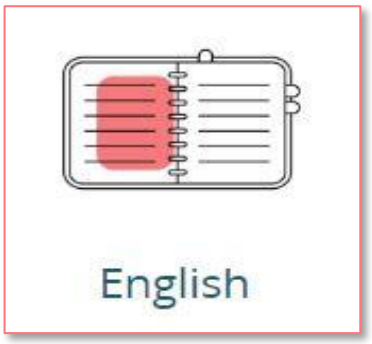
Functional Skills qualifications provide reliable evidence of a learner's achievements against demanding content that is relevant to the workplace. The qualifications assess learners' underpinning subject knowledge and their ability to apply this knowledge to different contexts. They provide a foundation for progression to employment and further technical education, and they help learners to develop skills for everyday life.

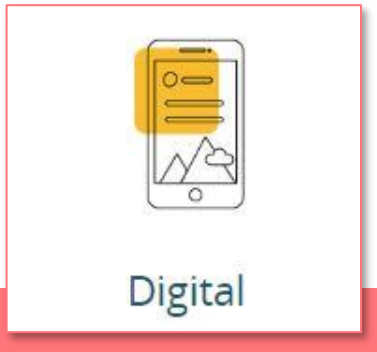
In some contexts, Functional Skills qualifications will also play a part in the government's accountability systems. Functional Skills qualifications are based on Department for Education (DfE) approved subject content and are regulated by Ofqual. Learners will work towards their qualification in several settings, including but not limited to:

- schools and sixth-form colleges
- Pupil Referral Units
- further education providers
- private colleges
- private skills providers
- offender learning establishments
- higher education establishments

We offer qualifications in **English, Mathematics and Digital**, comprehensive qualifications for all ages and learner types, that equip learners with the practical skills needed to live, learn and work successfully.







Functional Skills Qualifications in **English**

What are Functional Skills in English?

The Pearson Edexcel Functional Skills Qualifications in English at Entry Levels 1, 2 and 3 are for learners to develop understanding and skills in English. The qualifications give learners the opportunity to:

- Demonstrate the ability at an appropriate level to read, write, speak, listen and communicate in English
- Apply this knowledge and these skills in familiar situations.
- Achieve a foundation for further study at Levels 1 and 2.

Functional Skills qualifications in English should fulfil the following purposes:

The qualifications give learners the opportunity to:

- Listen, understand and respond to verbal communication in a range of familiar contexts
- Acquire an understanding of everyday words and their uses and effects, and apply this understanding in different contexts
- Read with accuracy straightforward texts encountered in everyday life and work, and develop confidence to read more widely
- Write straightforward texts and documents with clarity and effectiveness, and demonstrate a sound grasp of spelling, punctuation and grammar.

What is the subject content for Functional Skills qualifications in English?

The subject content for Functional Skills qualifications in English has been created by the Department for Education at Entry Level 1-3. This sets out the learning outcomes and content coverage for the qualifications.

Access the content pg. 11 – 20 >

Who are the qualifications for?

Functional Skills Qualifications in English will be funded for 16–19-year-olds as part of their study programmes and adults as part of AEB funding. But is also approved for Pre-16, 16–18 and 19+.

How will these qualifications be assessed?

All levels will have an internally set and assessed Speaking, Listening and Communicating assessments. As well as an externally set, on-demand Reading and Writing assessments, internally marked and externally verified.

The assessments are pass / fail in line with the other Functional Skills qualifications.

What Levels are available?

Functional Skills in English is available at Entry Level 1-3 only as specified by the Department for Education. .

Functional Skills Qualifications in **Mathematics**

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What are Functional Skills in Mathematics?

The Pearson Edexcel Functional Skills Qualifications in Mathematics at Entry Levels 1-3 is for learners to develop understanding and skills in mathematics. The qualifications give learners the opportunity to:

- demonstrate a sound grasp of the underpinning skills and basics of mathematical problem-solving skills appropriate to the level, and the ability to apply mathematical thinking to solve problems in familiar situations
- achieve the skills for further study at Levels 1 and 2
- achieve a foundation for progression into employment.

Functional Skills qualifications in Mathematics should fulfil the following purposes:

- Enable learners to become confident in their use of fundamental mathematical knowledge and skills
- Indicate that learners can demonstrate their understanding by applying their knowledge and skills to solve simple mathematical problems or to carry out simple tasks

What is the subject content for Functional Skills qualifications in Mathematics?

The subject content for Functional Skills qualifications in Mathematics has been created by the Department for Education at Entry Level 1-3. This sets out the learning outcomes and content coverage for the qualifications.

Access the content pg. 11 – 20 >

Who are the qualifications for?

Functional Skills Qualifications in Mathematics will be funded for 16–19-year-olds as part of their study programmes and adults as part of AEB funding. But is also approved for Pre-16, 16–18 and 19+.

How will these qualifications be assessed?

All levels will have an externally set, on-demand assessment, internally marked and externally verified. The assessments are pass / fail in line with the other Functional Skills qualifications

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What Levels are available?

Functional Skills in Mathematics is available at Entry Level 1-3 only as specified by the Department for Education.

Functional Skills Qualifications in **Digital**

Pearson Digital Functional Skills qualifications arrived in October 2023 and are available in England only at Entry Level 3 and Level 1.

What are Digital Functional Skills?

Digital Functional Skills are two new qualifications aimed at demonstrating a learner's digital skills at Entry 3 and Level 1

Digital Functional Skills qualifications should fulfil the following purposes:

- Provide reliable evidence of a learner's achievements against content that is relevant to the workplace and real life.
- Provide assessment of a learner's knowledge and skills as well as their ability to apply these in different contexts.
- Provide a foundation for progression into employment or further education and develop skills for everyday life.

What is the subject content for Digital Functional Skills qualifications

The subject content for Digital Functional Skills qualifications has been created by the Department for Education at Entry Level 3 and Level 1. This sets out the learning outcomes and content coverage for the qualifications.

Access the content

Who are the qualifications for?

Digital Functional Skills Qualifications will be funded for 16–19-year-olds as part of their study programmes and adults as part of AEB funding.

How will these qualifications be assessed?

Both levels will have an externally set and marked onscreen / online assessment which will be available on demand. The assessments will be pass / fail in line with the other Functional Skills qualifications.

When will they go live?

These qualifications are live for registration and delivery as of October 2023. Assessments will be available too.

Functional Skills ICT qualifications closed for new registrations at the 31st August 2023. There will be one year of dual running to allow for learners to complete their Functional Skills ICT qualifications.

What Levels are available?

Digital Functional Skills is available at Entry Level and Level 1 only as specified by the Department for Education.

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Explore our flexible skills-based qualifications, designed to offer all your learners the practical skills and confidence they will need to progress to independent living, further study or employment.

Contact us or register your interest here:

- quals.pearson.com/BTECbelowL2guide
- support.pearson.com/uk/s
- 020 7010 2193