

DfE post-16
qualification reforms
Level 2 and below



Department
for Education

 gateway
qualifications



Today's Agenda

DfE Vision: Post 16 Level 2 and below

Future qualification offer

Funding policy

Join: [slido.com](https://www.slido.com) Code: #8833887

Scan:



slido



How much do you know about these reforms?

ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

DfE Reforms

Overview

Clarity

Progression

Employer focus

Improve basic skills

System for all

Advanced British Standard

New level 3 qualification framework for 16 to 19 year olds

Aim to place technical and academic on an equal footing

Mix of academic and technical study

Maths and English studied until end of compulsory education

Additional taught hours to be funded

Dedicated pathway for learners studying at Level 2



Occupational routes and standards



Business and administration

Human Resources

Human resources administrator	Human resources manager	Human resources professional
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HR support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level 3 Learning and development practitioner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level 3 Recruitment consultant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coaching professional <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level 5 Diversity and inclusion officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level 4 Employability practitioner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arbitration professional <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level 6 Career development professional <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level 6 Senior people professional - Senior Human Resources (HR) Professional <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level 7

Business administrator

Business and administration

Level 3 - Technical Occupation

Supporting and engaging with different parts of the organisation and interact with internal or external customers.

Summary

Business administrators have a highly transferable set of knowledge, skills and behaviours that can be applied in all sectors. This includes small and large businesses alike: from the public sector, private sector and charitable sector. The role may involve working independently or as part of a team and will involve developing, implementing, maintaining and improving administrative services. Business administrators develop key skills and behaviours to support their own progression towards management responsibilities. The responsibilities of the role are to support and engage with different parts of the organisation and interact with internal or external customers. With a focus on adding ...

[Read more](#)

Technical Education Products

A ST0070: Business Administrator (Level 3) Approved for delivery **C** Career Starter Apprenticeship

TL TL0014b: Management and administration - Business support (Level 3) **TE** Technical education progression

Reference: OCC0070

Status: Approved occupation

Average (median) salary: £21,933 per year

SOC 2020 code: 4159 Other administrative occupations n.e.c.

SOC 2020 sub unit groups:

- 4159/01 Business administrators
- 4113/01 Charity administrators
- 4142/00 Office supervisors

Qualification groups



Level 2 supporting progression to further study, or skilled employment

Level 1 and Entry level progression to further study leading to employment or work-based pathway

Basic skills qualifications in English, Maths and Digital as well as ESOL

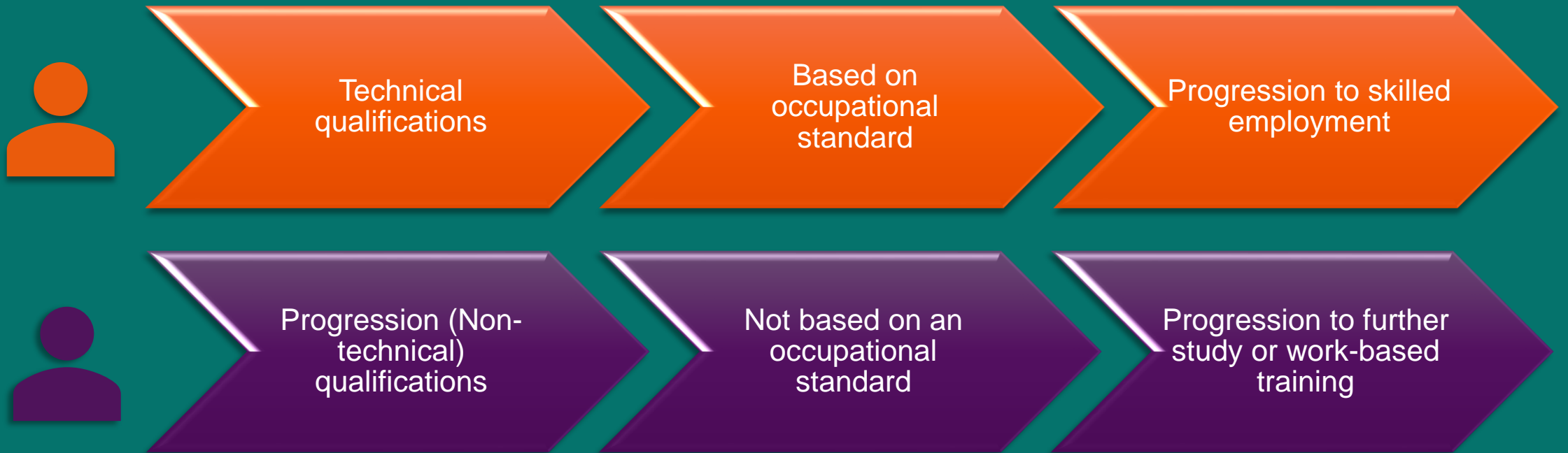
Personal, Social and Employability qualifications

Supporting progression to
further study or skilled
employment

Level 2



Level 2 Future Pathways



Level 2 Technical Qualifications

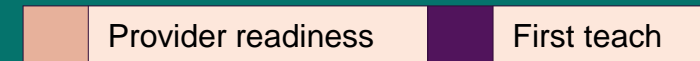
Technical Occupational
Entry

Technical Specialist

Technical Cross-cutting

Technical Employer
proposed (no standard)

Level 2 Technical Timeline



Cycle	Qualification group	Routes	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28
Cycle 1	Technical Occupational Entry	Construction and the built environment Education and early years	Provider readiness	First teach		
	Technical Specialist	Engineering and manufacturing Health and science				
Cycle 2	Technical Occupational Entry	All remaining routes		Provider readiness	First teach	
	Technical Specialist					
Cycle 3	Technical Cross-cutting	N/A			Provider readiness	First teach
	Employer proposed					

Level 2 Technical Qualifications Approval

Ofqual

- Review qualification submissions
- Regulate qualifications

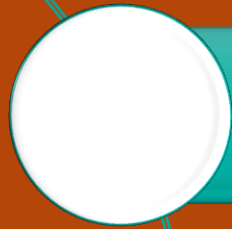
IfATE

- Lead approval of technical qualifications
- Apply approval tests

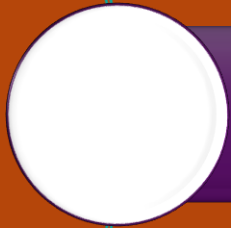
DfE

- Qualification funding approval

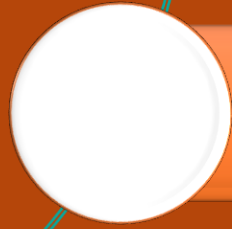
Level 2 Progression Qualifications



T Level Foundation qualifications



Technical Progression which support progression to a level 3 technical qualification



Academic Progression

Level 2 T Level Foundation Qualifications (TLFQs)

- Support progression onto Level 3 technical study through T Levels
- Technical component of the T Level foundation year
- Content based on National Technical Outcomes
- Graded
- Guided Learning Hours:120-150 GLH



slido



**Are you currently offering T Level
Foundation year programmes?**

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

slido



Would you consider delivering qualifications as part of the T Level programme of learning?

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

Level 2 Technical Progression

Develop the breadth of knowledge, skills and understanding

Support progression to specified Level 3 technical qualifications

Occupational route level

Around 120-240 GLH



Level 2 Academic Progression

Support progression to Level 3 Alternative Academic qualification

For 16 to 19 year olds and Adults

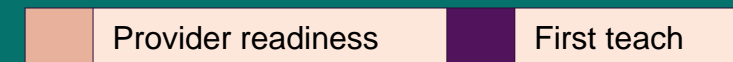
Introductory content in a broad subject area

Taken as part of a mixed programme alongside A levels

Around 120-240 GLH



Level 2 Progression Timeline



Cycle	Qualification group	Routes/Sector Subject Areas	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28
Cycle 2	T Level Foundation	All available T Levels				
	Technical Progression	Construction and the built environment Digital Education and early years Engineering and manufacturing Health and science				
	Academic progression	Engineering Health and social care ICT practitioners or users Medicine and dentistry Nursing and subjects and vocations allied to medicine Science				
Cycle 3	Technical Progression	Remaining routes				
	Academic progression	Accounting and finance Crafts, creative arts and design Languages, literature and culture of the British Isles Media and communication Performing arts Public services Sport, leisure and recreation.				

Progression to further study
leading to employment or work-
based pathway
Level 1 and below



Progression to employment or work-based pathway

Serving pre-requisite to employment

Progression to further study

Level 1 pre-requisite to employment

Linked to occupational regulation

Support entry to employment and learn on the job

Level 1 Health and Safety in a Construction Environment



Level 1 and Entry level Progression Qualifications

Aim

- Prepare learners for progression on to a technical qualification within an occupational route

Target Group

- Diverse cohort of learners, a significant sub-set of which may be learners with SEND (DfE expectations)

Content

- Expectation to align to one (or in some instances, more than one) of IfATE's 15 occupational routes

Duration

- Not specified



Basic Skills and
Personal, Social and
Employability

Basic skills and PSE qualifications

Basic Skills

Personal, Social and Employability

ESOL

Literacy and numeracy

Personal and social skills

Employability skills

Independent living and life skills

Level 2

Level 1

Entry level

Level 1

Entry Level

Level 1

Entry Level

Level 1

Entry Level

Level 1

Entry Level

Basic skills

Consultation summer 2023 on Adult Literacy and Numeracy Standards

First teaching September 2028



Personal, Social and Employability

Reformed qualifications first teaching September 2027

Based on national standards

Consultation winter 2023 on draft standards



Personal, Social and Employability

Personal and Social Development

- Communication and interpersonal skills
- Confidence and resilience
- Study skills
- Engaging within the community and wider society

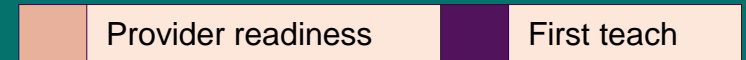
Employability Skills

- Job searches
- CV writing
- Interview skills
- Workplace communications
- Teamwork
- Problem solving
- Health and safety at work
- Employee rights and responsibilities

Independent Living and Life Skills

- Managing physical and mental health
- Relationships
- Maintaining a home
- Tenants' rights and responsibilities
- Independent travel skills
- Financial management skills

Full reform timeline



Cycle	Qualification group	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28	28/29
Cycle 1	Level 2 Technical Occupational Entry	Provider readiness	First teach			
	Level 2 Technical Specialist		First teach			
Cycle 2	Level 2 Technical Occupational Entry		Provider readiness	First teach		
	Level 2 Technical Specialist			First teach		
	Level 2 T Level Foundation			First teach		
	Level 2 Technical Progression			First teach		
Cycle 3	Level 2 Technical Progression			Provider readiness	First teach	
	Level 2 Technical Cross-cutting			Provider readiness	First teach	
	Level 2 Employer proposed			Provider readiness	First teach	
	Level 1 and Entry Level Progression			Provider readiness	First teach	
	Level 1 and Entry Level Personal, Social, Employability			Provider readiness	First teach	
Cycle 4	Level 1 and Entry Level English & Maths				Provider readiness	First teach
	Level 2 and below ESOL				Provider readiness	First teach

slido



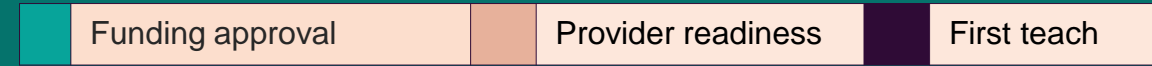
Based on what you now know, how much of your provision do you think might be affected?

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

Funding policy



Funding approval timeline



Cycle	Qualification group	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28	28/29
Cycle 1	Level 2 Technical Occupational Entry	Funding approval	Provider readiness	First teach			
	Level 2 Technical Specialist	Funding approval	Provider readiness	First teach			
Cycle 2	Level 2 Technical Occupational Entry		Funding approval	Provider readiness	First teach		
	Level 2 Technical Specialist		Funding approval	Provider readiness	First teach		
	Level 2 T Level Foundation		Funding approval	Provider readiness	First teach		
	Level 2 Technical Progression		Funding approval	Provider readiness	First teach		
Cycle 3	Level 2 Technical Progression			Funding approval	Provider readiness	First teach	
	Level 2 Technical Cross-cutting			Funding approval	Provider readiness	First teach	
	Level 2 Employer proposed* <small>*Adult only</small>			Funding approval	Provider readiness	First teach	
	Level 1 and Entry Level Progression			Funding approval	Provider readiness	First teach	
	Level 1 and Entry Level Personal, Social, Employability			Funding approval	Provider readiness	First teach	
Cycle 4	Level 1 and Entry Level English & Maths				Funding approval	Provider readiness	First teach
	Level 2 and below ESOL				Funding approval	Provider readiness	First teach

Qualification Funding Approval

Common funding approval criteria

- Evidence of demand

3 year approval not annual

Transition phase, DfE don't want to create gaps of insufficient coverage of provision

Funding Approval Cycle 2

Qualifications will be considered for funding approval for 1st August 2026

Qualifications will be approved for three years to 31st July 2029

If you miss submission deadlines or withdraw your qualification, we will not consider your qualification for funding approval until business as usual starts in 2028

Existing qualifications at Level 2 and Level 3 that align with cycle 2 routes and qualification categories will have funding approval removed from 1st August 2026

In cycle 2 we will consider small AAQs and technical qualifications that were in scope of cycle 1 in certain circumstances

Other qualifications outside of the scope of these reforms will be automatically approved for funding

Adult Education Budget - New Skills Fund

Funding bands

There will be 5 new skills funding bands, with sector subject areas (SSAs) at tier 2 level assigned to one of these bands

A simple calculation of multiplying the GLH x the relevant skills band hourly rate

New skills funding band	Base	Low	Medium	High	Specialist
New hourly skills funding rate	£6.00	£7.20	£8.40	£9.60	£12.00

Likely AEB funding for new level 2 offer

Occupational route	SSA	GLH	Hourly rate	AEB
Business and Administration	15.2	120-240	£6.00	£720 - £1,440
Care Services	1.3	120-240	£8.40	£1,008 - £2,016
Digital	6.1	120-240	£8.40	£1,008 - £2,016
Health & Science	1.2	120-240	£8.40	£1,008 - £2,016
Sales, Marketing and Procurement	15.4	120-240	£6.00	£720 - £1,440
Education & Early Years	13.2	120-240	£7.20	£864 - £1,728

Considerations

Qualification
moratorium

Devolved
areas

Study
programmes

LSIPs

slido



Would you like to be involved in assisting and shaping our qualification offer?

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

Questions?

 01206 911 211

 @GatewayQuals

 www.gatewayqualifications.org.uk

 enquiries@gatewayqualifications.org.uk



Free webinar

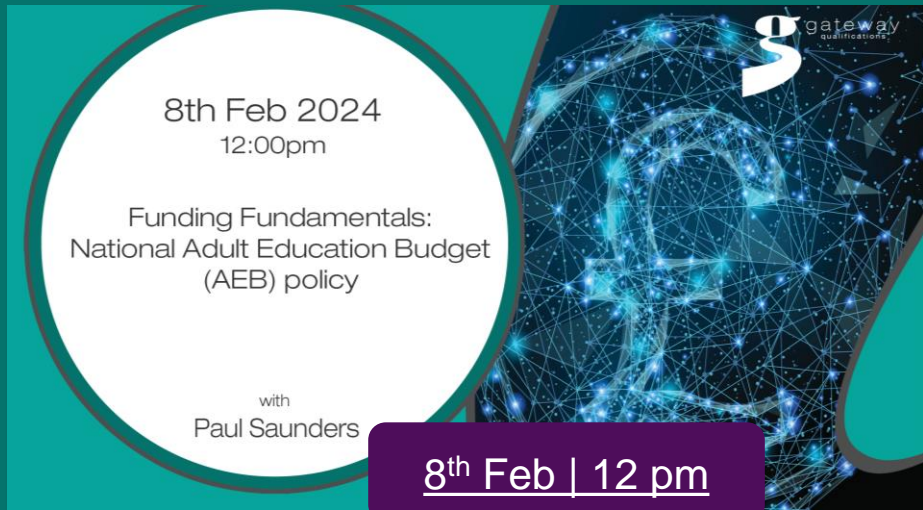
Introduction to Digital Functional Skills

with
Diana Muallem
and Paul Saunders

6th Feb | 12 pm



Funding Fundamentals: The webinar series



8th Feb 2024
12:00pm

Funding Fundamentals:
National Adult Education Budget
(AEB) policy

with
Paul Saunders

[8th Feb | 12 pm](#)



29th Feb 2024
12:00pm

Funding fundamentals:
National Adult Education Budget
(AEB) policy changes 2024/25

with
Paul Saunders

[29th Feb | 12 pm](#)



21st Mar 2024
12:00pm

Funding fundamentals:
Hints and tips using Funding systems

with
Paul Saunders

[21st Mar | 12 pm](#)

Business Development



Chris Deeprise

Email Chris [here](#) or call

T: 01206 911242 M: 07920 027 375



Rory Munro

Email Rory [here](#) or call

T: 01206 911245 M: 07740 180 022



Michelle Sparkes

Email Michelle [here](#) or call

T: 01206 911 243 M: 07920 027 370



John Hamilton

Email John [here](#) or call

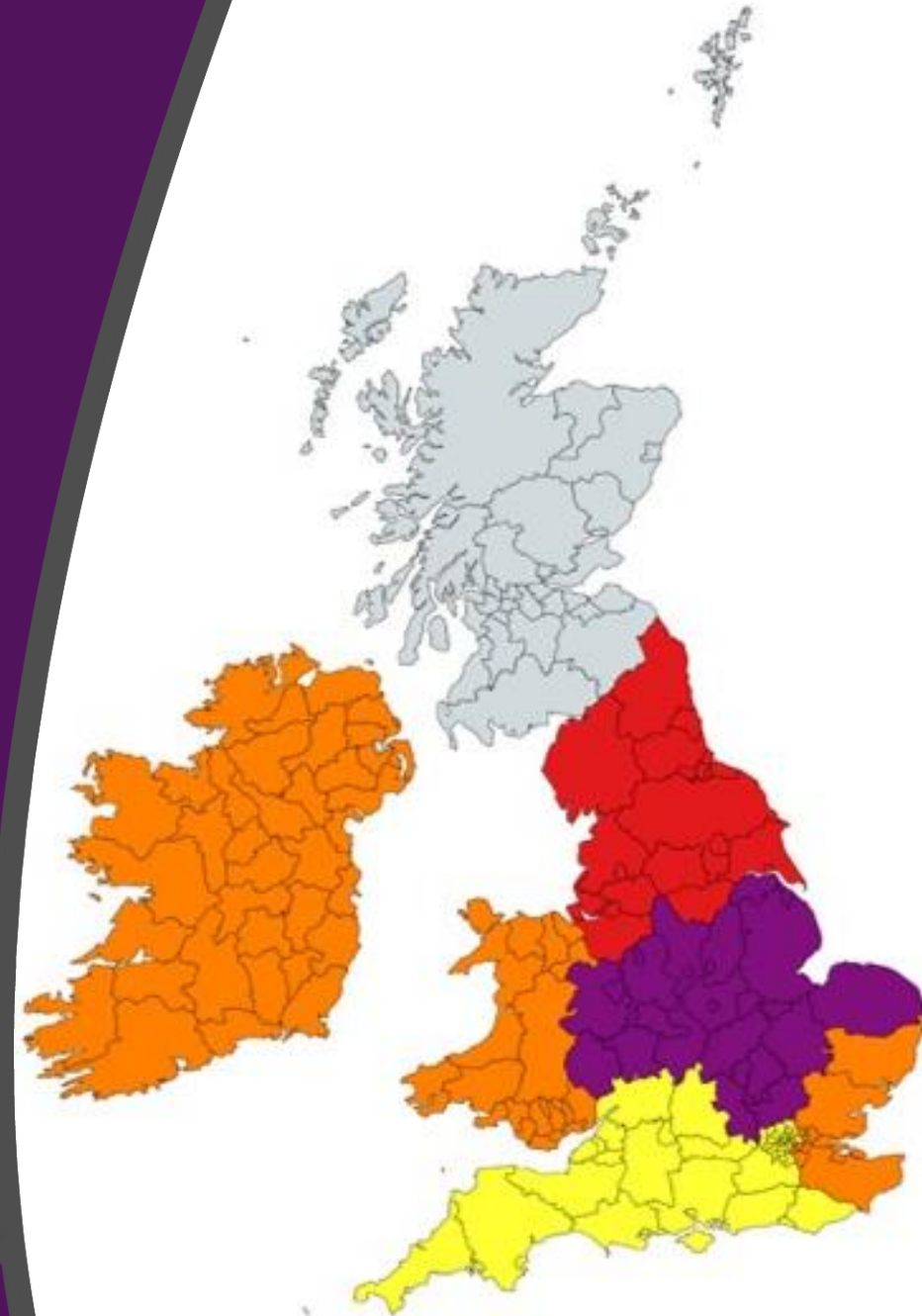
T: 01206 911 246 M: 07498 903029



Paul Saunders

Email Paul [here](#) or call

T: 01206 911204 M: 07734 556008



Questions?

 01206 911 211

 @GatewayQuals

 www.gatewayqualifications.org.uk

 enquiries@gatewayqualifications.org.uk



Contact information



<https://www.gatewayqualifications.org.uk/>



enquiries@gatewayqualifications.org.uk



01206 911 211



[GatewayQuals](#)



[Gateway Qualifications](#)

