

Specialist Knowledge, Skills and Understanding

Digital Qualifications Level 3

This document defines the additional subject-specific criteria required to quality assure **Digital Qualifications at Level 3**.

It must be read in addition to the **Core EQA Role Profile**.

Specialist Curriculum Scope

The Subject Specialist will quality assure provision leading to the following qualifications:

- **Gateway Qualifications Level 3 Certificate and Diploma in Digital Business Solutions**
- **Gateway Qualifications Level 3 Certificate and Diploma in Networking and Cybersecurity**
- **Gateway Qualifications Level 3 Certificate and Diploma in Software Development**
- **Gateway Qualifications Level 3 Certificate and Diploma in Social Media for E-Commerce**
- **Gateway Qualifications Level 3 Certificate in Systems Infrastructure**

These qualifications are typically characterised by:

- **Applied, vocational assessment models**, often project-based or portfolio-based
- Learner evidence demonstrating **practical use of digital tools, systems or platforms**
- Emphasis on **business-relevant digital skills** rather than purely academic knowledge
- Learning aligned to **entry-level roles or progression to higher-level digital study**

The Subject Specialist must have sufficient occupational knowledge to evaluate technical content, assessment decisions and qualification standards at **Level 3** within this curriculum area.

Specialist Technical and Occupational Knowledge

The Subject Specialist must demonstrate **current occupational understanding** of digital practice sufficient to judge learner achievement at Level 3.

This includes knowledge of one or more of the following applied areas:

- **Software development fundamentals**, including basic programming concepts and structured problem-solving
- **Networking and cyber security principles**, including infrastructure, threats and protective measures
- **Digital business systems**, including the use of digital tools to support organisational processes
- **E-commerce and social media**, including digital marketing, analytics and platform-based activity

The Subject Specialist must be able to judge whether learner evidence demonstrates:

- appropriate **technical accuracy** for Level 3
- realistic **vocational or business application**
- progression beyond basic task completion towards **independent application of skills**

Specialist Assessment and Evidence Evaluation

The Subject Specialist must be able to evaluate **applied digital evidence**, which may include:

- Project work demonstrating digital solutions
- Software or system artefacts supported by documentation
- Business-focused digital outputs, such as e-commerce or social media activity
- Supporting commentary explaining decisions and outcomes

The Subject Specialist must judge whether the evidence:

- meets the **learning outcomes and assessment criteria** in full
- reflects **authentic learner practice** rather than template-driven or instructor-led work
- demonstrates the **level of complexity and autonomy expected at Level 3**

Specialist Professional Currency

The Subject Specialist must maintain **ongoing occupational relevance** in the digital sector. This may be evidenced through:

- Continued engagement with digital tools, platforms or systems
- Awareness of evolving industry practices at entry-level roles
- Keeping subject knowledge aligned with current workplace expectations

Scope Clarification

This specialist template **does not restate**:

- Generic EQA or IQA competencies
- Quality assurance methodology or sampling practice
- Reporting, professional conduct or customer service expectations

These are fully covered in the **Core EQA Role Profile**.