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Questions and Answers
Technical Qualifications in Hospitality & Catering - So what?

27 April 2017

While B tests are no longer vital, is it advisable to test students internally throughout the year and record this information to show that the student has improved?

Yes absolutely. It is important that you ensure you carry out formative assessments to track learner progression and to skills build so ideally the formative assessments would increase in time and content. At the start of planning for the moderation visit which occurs during one of your synoptic assessments we ask you to advise us of the learners likely eventual grade so when we visit we can sample learners across your range of P/M/D/D*. Your formative assessment process will aid your decisions at this point. The process of formative assessment is equally as important for you as tutors we would encourage the use of the marking grid and assessment objectives for all formative assessments and for all tutors whom are likely to mark to be involved. This would be an ideal standardisation process, which the IQA should encourage to ensure your marking is standardized as a centre.

Which qualification would a current level 2 (L2) student take at level 3 (L3)?

A current level 2 food service learner would undertake the level 3 6103-30, if they wished to continue on this vocational route.

A current level 2 VRQ learner could undertake any of the level 3 technical diploma routes. Whilst the 6100-30 was redeveloped from the VRQ 7100 level 2 some centres this academic year did choose to move them onto this qualification. Other centres chose the larger 540 GLH qualification 6100-31. With an equal uptake on the pure larder route 6100-33 and the patisserie route 6100-32.

What are the entry requirements for L2?

This needs to be decided by you as centres.

Is it better to deliver all new Technical Qualifications or a combination of Technical Qualifications and VRQ?

For both learners and tutors it has to be better to offer all the same qualifications if they are available to be delivered.

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Does the learner choose the dishes for the synoptic test or are they set?

All sample synoptics are available on the City & Guilds website under the qualification pages 6100 for level 2 and 3 Cookery routes, 6103 for level 2 food service routes, 7178 for the combined level 2 route and 6106 for the KS4 technical award. Here you will get an idea of the types of tasks the learners are set.

Do centres have to run the L2 and L3 Technical Qualifications from September 2017 or can centres stay within 7100-12 and 7100-85?

Currently this is still at the choice of the centre, however how long this choice remains is unknown. The educational landscape is clearly moving towards end testing for both full time and apprenticeship qualifications so these changes are happening and we need to embrace them.

Will centres be emailed the 2018 scheduled dates?

Yes

Is the L2 on the league table for September start?

The Technical Qualifications will all be on the 2019 performance tables.

If learners have completed VRQ 1 this academic year, which Technical Certificate would be the best progression route for them?

As with question 2 this will depend upon which route, cookery or food service, they want to follow and the learners' individual ability. We are running events throughout June 2017 around the country to help with this and I can be contacted to provide additional advise with this question. For level 3 learners this year, centres took differing routes exactly dependent on their learners.

Will 7100-11 and 7100-12 be phased out?

Eventually I would imagine so as it is likely centres will themselves stop running these qualifications. Funding also will dictate this. We have no idea how long the 7100 qualifications will be funded for.

Roughly, how much are SmartScreen packages?

Here I advise contacting your City & Guilds Business Manager. The enhanced package is more expensive than the flat smart screen package, as it has video and interactive content. If you need help with how to contact your Business Manager then please do get back to me and I will advise.

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Can the 6100-31 be delivered in a year?

Yes, centres this year have certainly delivered this in one academic year.

With Technical Qualifications, can the industry still be involved with the synoptic assessment?

Yes we would encourage this. Please see the employer involvement section of each qualification handbook as well as the employer involvement guide found in the centre document library on the City & Guilds website for more information on types of employer involvement.

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