

#FunSkills2019



Functional Skills Reform monthly updates

Webinar 02: Readiness – 25 September 2018

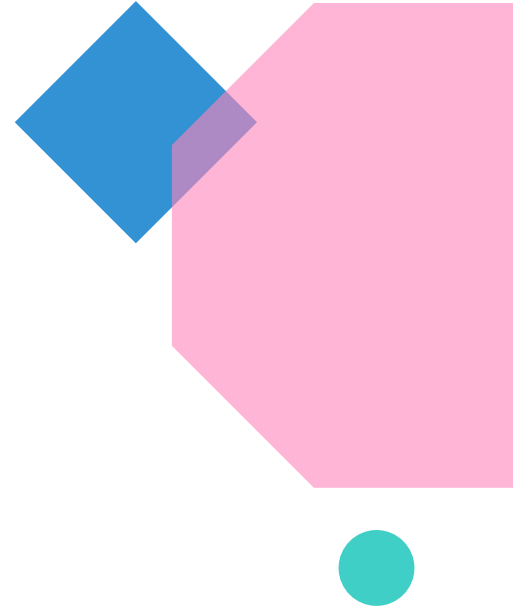
Katherine Cooper, Amanda Kelly and Paul Sceeny



This month...

- Meet the team
- What's new?
- Getting ready...

- Questions
 - Please post your questions during the webinar. We won't necessarily be able to answer them live, but will add them to the FAQs we are developing for the [Functional Skills updates](#) page.



Meet the team...



Katherine Cooper
Technical Advisor



Amanda Kelly
Industry Manager



Paul Sceeny
Technical Advisor

A quick recap

- Reformed Functional Skills qualifications available for first teaching from **September 2019**.
- Based on new Subject Content, and subject to new Regulatory Conditions.
- Distinct purposes for Entry level vs levels 1 and 2
 - **Entry level** sound grasp of the underpinning skills and basics
 - **Levels 1-2** apply these skills effectively to a range of purposes in the workplace and in other real life situations.
- More explicit assessment of 'underpinning' skills – not just incidentally through problem-solving tasks
 - no spelling/grammar checkers or dictionaries allowed within English Writing
 - word lists at Entry level
 - assessment at all levels with and without a calculator for maths.
- Awarding organisations currently seeking approval from Ofqual to offer new qualifications.



Development timelines

- **Currently** developing specifications and assessment strategy for revised qualifications; gaining Ofqual approval.
- **31 August 2019** last registration for current (3748-01 and 3748-02) qualifications
- **September 2019** revised FS English and FS Mathematics qualifications available for first teaching
- **31 August 2020** last certification for current (3748-01 and 3748-02) qualifications.



Readiness...

What about our initial assessment plans?

RACI charts
☹️

How can we start to prepare?

How can we ensure we don't miss anything crucial?

Will we have to reapply for Qualification Approval?

Will our teaching need to change?

This might help...

- Self-assessment document
 - four stages
 - **not all** stages/steps/questions will be answerable immediately
 - further stages/steps/questions may emerge later.
- We will keep referring back to this guide (and possibly add to it) over the coming months.



Stage 1 – own awareness

Things to consider	All clear, understood and actioned?	Need more information, or more to do?	Comments
Familiar with revised Subject Content for English ?			
Familiar with revised Subject Content for Mathematics ?			
Understand revised scope/purpose of Functional Skills at Entry level ?			
Understand revised scope/purpose of Functional Skills at Levels 1-2 ?			
Signed up for City & Guilds' monthly #FunSkills2019 webinars ?			
Signed up for Functional Skills email updates from City & Guilds?			
Know where to find City & Guilds' Functional Skills updates webpage?			

Stage 2 – it's good to share...

Things to consider	All clear, understood and actioned?	Need more information, or more to do?	Comments
Staff directly involved in the teaching of Functional Skills familiar with changes and likely implications for their practice?			
Staff directly involved in the assessment and internal quality assurance (IQA) of Functional Skills familiar with changes and likely implications for their practice?			
Staff involved in the administration of Functional Skills (eg exams staff) aware of changes, and possible implications for their role?			
Staff responsible for the teaching/assessment of other subjects delivered alongside Functional Skills have a good understanding of the reforms and possible implications for their practice?			
Senior leaders have a good understanding of the Functional Skills reforms, especially any resourcing and/or programme planning implications?			
Staff involved in the delivery of GCSE English and Mathematics understand the changes to Functional Skills, and how this might affect the relationship between Functional Skills and GCSE.			

Stages 3 and 4

Operational processes

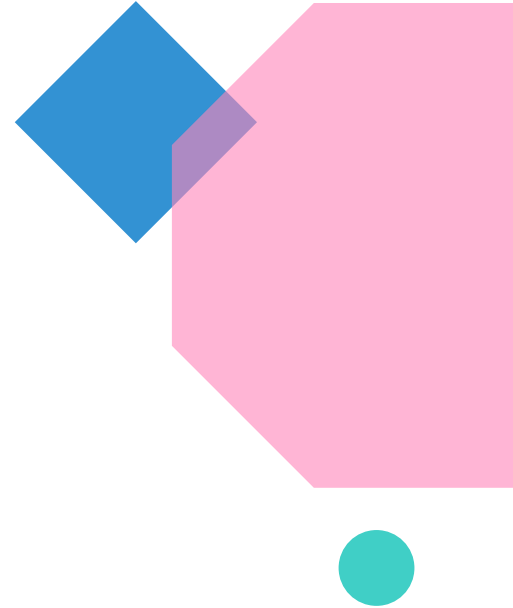
- Implications of Functional Skills reform for initial and diagnostic assessment process (including tools used for this)
- Qualification Approval arrangements for reformed Functional Skills qualifications (including obtaining Direct Claims Status).
- Implications of any changes to assessment duration understood.
- Implications of non-calculator section of FS Mathematics assessment.
- Implications for spell/grammar checkers and dictionaries no longer being permitted within FS English Writing.
- Changes to format of FS English Speaking, Listening and Communication (SLC) assessments.
- Any operational implications for Entry level assessments – eg word lists within FS English.

Planning and implementation

- Accessing key documents to support the reformed Functional Skills qualifications (once available) from City & Guilds
- Implications for **Apprenticeships**, eg programme hours, ensuring qualifications achieved/attempted as necessary prior to Gateway.
- Implications for **Study Programmes**, eg programme hours, condition of funding rules, meaningful progression.
- Briefings and CPD support in place for staff, to ensure all understand changes and implications for their practice.
- Building on existing good practice – eg experience of embedded/contextualised teaching of maths and English.
- Changes relationship between Functional Skills and GCSE understood – appropriate decisions taken regarding use of each.
- Relationship between Functional Skills and ‘bite-sized’ maths and English qualifications (eg City & Guilds’ Mathematics/English Skills (3847) suite) understood – appropriate decisions taken regarding use of each.

Staying in touch

- Webinars **every month** – if you're signed up you should get an email reminder
 - each webinar will have a theme/focus, as well as providing a general update
 - a recording will be available shortly after each webinar.
- Email alerts
 - make sure you're signed up
 - encourage others to sign up
- Functional Skills updates page.
- Coming soon
 - FAQs
 - Maths and English blog
 - networks and launch events.



Thank you

For more information about the Functional Skills reform programme, please visit

cityandguilds.com/mathsandenglish

Then follow links to [Functional Skills updates](#).

There's a dedicated email address:

fsreform@cityandguilds.com

Use **#FunSkills2019** to join the social media conversation:

- Follow Amanda [@MathsEnglish CG](#)
- Follow Paul [@PaulSceeny CG](#)

