

Use of Language (Welsh and Irish) in BTEC qualifications and Edexcel NVQs

Of interest to:

- Curriculum managers
- Exam officers
- Heads of centres
- Heads of departments
- NVQ training and assessment managers
- Programme leaders
- Teaching staff
- Training providers

Qualifications:

- BTEC Customised Framework
- BTEC Diploma in Foundation Studies (Art & Design)
- BTEC First Certificate and Diploma
- BTEC Higher National Certificate and Diploma
- BTEC Introductory Certificate and Diploma
- BTEC National Award, Certificate and Diploma
- BTEC Short Courses
- Entry Level Certificate (Life Skills/Skills for Working Life)
- NVQ

Policy on Use of Language (Welsh and Irish) in BTEC qualifications and Edexcel NVQs

In England, Edexcel will provide qualification specifications and assessment materials that are expressed in English. Exceptions to this policy will be for foreign language specifications and other specific instances, such as the use of British Sign Language (in accordance with Edexcel's policy on *Access Arrangements and Special Considerations for BTEC qualifications and Edexcel NVQs*).

In Wales, Edexcel will provide qualification specifications and assessment materials that are expressed in English or, at its discretion, in Welsh and English. When deciding if materials are to be produced in more than one language, Edexcel will need to assess if mechanisms are able to ensure that:

- assessments carried out in the different languages are comparable
- moderation or verification of assessment carried out in the different languages is comparable.

In Northern Ireland, Edexcel will provide qualification specifications that are expressed in English and assessment materials that are expressed either in English or, at its discretion, in English and Irish (Gaeilge). When deciding if materials are to be produced in more than one language, Edexcel will need to assess if mechanisms are able to ensure that:

- assessments carried out in the different languages are comparable
- moderation or verification of assessment carried out in the different languages is comparable.

For NVQs the requirements of the assessment strategy must be met.

Guidance on Use of Language (Welsh and Irish) in BTEC qualifications and Edexcel NVQs

Policy Review:

Review date 2007

Useful contacts:

For more information on Edexcel qualifications please contact Edexcel Customer Services

Tel: 0870 240 9800

You can also visit the Edexcel website: www.edexcel.org.uk

External Verifier/Examiner

Edexcel will endeavour to provide a Welsh or Irish-speaking specialist External Verifier/Examiner for each BTEC qualification or NVQ, where a centre makes such a request by **14th September** of the academic year in which external verification/examination will take place. Edexcel will not be able to make such arrangements where notification is provided after this date.

External verification/examination processes

Edexcel will endeavour to provide a Welsh or Irish-speaking specialist for each BTEC qualification or NVQ. Where such a specialist Welsh or Irish-speaking External Verifier cannot be found then the following exceptional arrangements will apply.

Provided that an acceptable proportion of students within a cohort are taking a programme through the medium of English and the centre can demonstrate to the External Verifier that it has:

- an effective process in place to standardise assessment across the two languages
- organised internal standardisation of assessment across the work provided by the English and Welsh or Irish speakers,

Edexcel's External Verifier may then be able to carry out the outcomes by sampling the work completed only in English.

Where a centre is presenting a sample from a cohort where all the work of that cohort has been entirely completed and assessed in Welsh or Irish, Edexcel will attempt to make a translator available to work alongside the External Verifier in order to carry out the process.

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