

## Edexcel NVQ Portfolio - General Information

### The Edexcel NVQ Portfolio

EDEXCEL'S portfolio comprises the NVQs for which we have successfully sought and gained accreditation from the QCA. Accreditation is given for a set period determined by the QCA, this ensures that all NVQs are regularly reviewed and updated in line with changes in industry practice.

The Edexcel NVQ Portfolio is therefore continually changing as existing NVQs reach their accreditation expiry dates and are replaced by new revised versions. Where a particular NVQ is deemed by QCA not to be fulfilling its objectives it may be withdrawn. At Edexcel we aim to keep the Portfolio under constant review in order to ensure that it develops appropriately and we have the right mix of titles/suites which complements the other qualifications we offer such as, BTEC Firsts, Nationals, Higher Nationals and Short Courses. These BTEC qualifications are designed to map into related NVQs and can in many cases provide the underpinning learning necessary for successful completion of NVQs.

The web-based *Edexcel NVQ Portfolio - Accreditation Listing* is updated bi-monthly and identifies the current accreditation situation at the point of publication.

### Occupational Standards

The Sector Skills Councils (SSCs) for each industry sector are the guardians of the occupational standards on which NVQs are based. It is their responsibility to produce and periodically update the relevant occupational standards. The SSCs are currently replacing the National Training Organisations (NTOs) who formerly had responsibility for the standards.

Any queries about the standards should be directed to the specific SSC, the Sector Skills Development Agency (SSDA) maintains a list of licensed and intending SSCs on its website <http://www.ssda.org.uk>.

### Accreditation of NVQs

The process by which Awarding Bodies such as Edexcel are accredited requires that we can satisfy a range of criteria laid down by QCA including the provision that we have sufficiently researched the market and have evidence of sufficient demand.

### The Qualifications & Curriculum Authority (QCA)

QCA is the official regulatory body responsible for developing the national framework of vocational qualifications and accrediting NVQs. QCA maintains a database of all vocational qualifications and works with Awarding Bodies and industry. Awarding Bodies must seek accreditation from QCA for any NVQ they wish to offer. For further information, please contact QCA. Tel: 0207 509 5556, or go to their website <http://www.qca.org.uk/>.