

Programme Manager - BTEC Nationals in Retail

21 May 2007

Dear Colleague

Withdrawal of BTEC National Diploma and Certificate in Retail

Edexcel's accreditation from QCA for the Level 3 BTEC National Diploma, Certificate and Award in Retail ceases on 31 August 2007.

It has been decided that we will not seek further accreditation for the BTEC National Diploma and Certificate in Retail. This considered decision is based upon the numbers of candidates that have registered for these BTEC qualifications since they were accredited.

Following consultation with the retail sector, we have developed a revised specification – the Edexcel Level 3 BTEC National Award in Retail - which will be available for delivery in approved centres from 1 September 2007. This has been accredited by QCA and the final specification has been posted on our website (<http://www.edexcel.org.uk/quals/nat/retail/na-sept-07/retail/>). Printed copies are available from Edexcel Publications and a copy will be sent to centres approved for the current specification in our next specification mailing, in June.

The terms of our existing accreditation for the current Edexcel Level 3 BTEC National Diploma, Certificate and Award in Retail allow candidates to be registered up until 31 August 2007. Candidates then have three years - until 31 August 2010 - to gain certification for their BTEC qualifications. We will be unable to accept registrations for candidates after 31 August 2007.

I hope that this decision does not cause undue difficulties. If you have queries in relation to this please email Ian Rowbory (ian.rowbory@edexcel.org.uk).

Yours sincerely

Peter Miller
Commercial Director