

## Edexcel Briefing Sheet for centres involved in IQER: the QAA `Edexcel Standard Note`

A large number of FE colleges in England offer Edexcel HND/HNC programmes. In the 2007 IQER pilot, 86% of the colleges involved ran HEFCE directly funded Higher Nationals and in the 2008 IQER roll out, directly funded HNs were offered by 80% of the involved colleges

Edexcel does not operate formal partnership agreements with FECs in the manner of HE Institutions with FEC collaborative arrangements, neither does Edexcel carry out a formal annual monitoring process of its HE provision in FECs. Nevertheless, as demonstrated above, Edexcel is a significant HE partner for many FECs and we have taken steps to support the IQER process in centres, following the lessons learned during the IQER Pilot in 2006/7 and during the initial full scale roll out of IQER in 2007/8.

The large number of FECs offering HN programmes and the limited resource available to underpin Edexcel`s HE provision, it cannot be assumed that there will be an Edexcel presence at all in-college IQER meetings. However, it is planned to offer the following support to FECs undergoing IQER:

- The Edexcel HE Manager (now supported by the Operations Leader, HE) will wish to receive copies of relevant IQER documentation, both from QAA and from individual colleges.
- Colleges can access the short paper on *IQER: Preparing for Self Evaluation*, which is posted on the Edexcel website and which lists all appropriate resources relevant to the Edexcel external examining process for HND/C programmes.
- Colleges can also access the full set of Edexcel *Specialist Papers*, designed to support External Examiners but also relevant to course teams, also posted on the Edexcel website.
- Edexcel will not, in most cases, be able to attend Preparative Meetings in colleges involved in planning for Developmental Engagements and Summative Reviews.
- Edexcel will undertake, wherever possible, to have a presence at relevant meetings involving HE partners during both Developmental Engagements and Summative Reviews. Where possible, the same person will attend both meetings. However, colleges should be aware that we have a large number of centres involved in IQER and that physical presence at meetings cannot be guaranteed. Any lack of attendance should not be viewed as unwillingness to engage with the IQER process!
- It is planned to extend the existing Edexcel Centre Risk Assessment process to cover HE provision in Edexcel centres; this will provide additional evidence for IQER reviewers
- Edexcel has introduced a new procedure in order to encourage FECs to self review the Edexcel external examiner process; a checklist of questions for consideration posted on the Edexcel website.

Edexcel staff who may be involved in college IQER meetings will normally be the Edexcel HE Manager; Operations Leader (HE); Senior Quality Manager; Quality Managers.

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