



Department
for Education

2017 key stage 4 performance tables: qualifications in the technical award category

December 2014

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Introduction

This is the list of qualifications that have been approved by the Department for Education (DfE) for teaching to 14-16 year olds from September 2015. These qualifications will be reported in the **technical award** category of the 2017 key stage 4 performance tables (and published in early 2018). They will be reported alongside other qualifications such as full course GCSEs¹, accredited IGCSE-style qualifications, AS levels and other Level 3 qualifications². An update to this list will be published in February 2015.

Qualifications that have been approved for reporting in the performance tables for the first time are indicated with an asterisk (*) after the title.

At level 2, qualifications can only be reported in the technical awards category if they are the same size or larger than a GCSE (120 guided learning hours). Qualifications that are larger than a GCSE will be reported as if they were one GCSE in size.

Technical awards are broad, high quality level 1 and level 2 qualifications that equip students with applied knowledge and associated practical skills not usually acquired through general education. **At key stage 4, students are encouraged to take up to three technical awards alongside a minimum of five academic GCSEs from the list of EBacc subjects**³. Further details about key stage 4 performance measures are available at the following link: [Progress 8 performance measure](#)

The list contains the qualification number and title and links to information about its purpose and value for further study. This will help students and parents decide which vocational qualifications best meet their learning needs and aspirations.

These links were correct on 10 December 2014. DfE cannot be held responsible for any omissions after this date. This is because the information is held on the website of the examination awarding organisation that offers the qualification. DfE will ensure that any omissions reported to them are corrected wherever possible. Please report any omissions to: vq.reform@education.gsi.gov.uk

Please note: Schools and colleges may offer qualifications that are not included in the performance tables, if approved for teaching to 14-16 year olds, where this is the best interests of each of their individual students.

¹ Please note that the only Level 1/Level 2 English and mathematics qualifications that will count in the 2017 key stage 4 tables will be the new reformed GCSEs.

² Graded music qualifications and grade 6 and above and free standing maths qualifications.

³ For further information see: the [School Performance Table user guides folder](#) and the "List of qualifications that count in the EBacc".

Headline performance measures at key stage 4

In 2013, DfE announced significant reforms to the school performance tables. These affect the reporting of exams taken in the summer of 2016 onwards. The new headline measures for school performance will be:

- progress across 8 subjects (which we are calling Progress 8);
- attainment across 8 subjects (which we are calling Attainment 8);
- the percentage of pupils achieving a C grade or better in both GCSE or IGCSE English and maths;
- the English Baccalaureate⁴.

Further details about these reforms are available at the following link:

[Secondary school accountability consultation](#)

The qualifications listed in this document count for up to three of the eight subjects in the Progress 8 and Attainment 8 headline measures. They will not count towards the five slots reserved for English, maths and other EBacc qualifications.

Further information can be found at the following link:

[School performance tables methodology and technical guides](#)

Discount codes

Qualifications which will count in the key stage 4 performance tables for the first time in 2017 have been allocated provisional discount codes. These are held in the [document library](#) on RAISEonline under 'Further details of the revised performance tables qualifications, discount rules and early entry guidance from 2014', with details on how to get in touch with the department if you believe any of the provisional discount codes should be amended and the deadline for submitting supporting evidence.

Final discount codes will then be published in early 2015.'

⁴ Only AS levels taken early, GCSEs, established IGCSEs and EBacc level 2 and level 1/2 Certificate qualifications will count in the EBacc.

Qualifications that will be included in the technical award category in the 2017 key stage 4 performance tables

Technical awards of a similar size to one GCSE

The qualifications listed below are at least the size of one GCSE (a GCSE being measured as 120 guided learning hours). Up to three vocational qualifications can count towards the new Progress 8 and Attainment 8 indicators being introduced for performance measures based on 2016 exam results.

| QN | Qualification Title | Size (GLH) | Subject area | Qualification Purpose Statement |
|------------------------------|---|------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Level 2 and Level 1/2 | | | | |
| 601/1147/1 | CISI Level 2 Certificate In Fundamentals of Business & Finance (QCF) | 120 | Administration, accounting and personal finance | Purpose |
| 601/1239/6 | IFS Level 2 Certificate in Financial Education (QCF) | 130 | Administration, accounting and personal finance | Purpose |
| 600/6907/7 | NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Creative Studies: Graphic Design (VRQ) | 120 | Art and design | Purpose |
| 601/0043/6 | NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Creative Studies: Craft (VRQ) | 120 | Art and design | Purpose |
| 600/4781/1 | Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Art and Design | 120 | Art and design | Purpose |
| 600/5502/9 | WJEC Level 1/2 Award in Creative and Media | 120 | Art and design | Purpose |
| 600/6905/3 | NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Creative Studies: Art and Design (VRQ) | 150 | Art and design | Purpose |
| 601/0048/5 | NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Business and Enterprise (VRQ) | 120 | Business | Purpose |
| 600/5080/9 | OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Business and Enterprise | 120 | Business | Purpose |
| 600/4786/0 | Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Business | 120 | Business | Purpose |
| 600/6814/0 | Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Children's Play, Learning and Development | 120 | Child development and well-being | Purpose |
| 600/6644/1 | CACHE Level 2 Award in Child Development and Care (VRQ) | 125 | Child development and well-being | Purpose |
| 600/6817/6 | Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Construction and the Built Environment | 120 | Construction and the built environment | Purpose |

| QN | Qualification Title | Size (GLH) | Subject area | Qualification Purpose Statement |
|------------|---|------------|--|---------------------------------|
| 601/0543/4 | WJEC Level 1/2 Award In Constructing the Built Environment | 120 | Construction and the built environment | Purpose |
| 601/1271/2 | WJEC Level 1/2 Award In Planning and Maintaining the Built Environment | 120 | Construction and the built environment | Purpose |
| 601/1199/9 | TLM Level 2 Certificate in Designing, Engineering, and Constructing a Sustainable Built Environment (QCF) | 120 | Construction and the built environment | Purpose |
| 601/0426/0 | WJEC Level 1/2 Award In Designing the Built Environment | 120 | Construction and the built environment | Purpose |
| 601/1219/0 | OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Engineering Manufacture | 120 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 601/1273/6 | OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Principles in Engineering and Engineering Business | 120 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 601/1407/1 | OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Systems Control in Engineering | 120 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 601/1411/3 | OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Engineering Design | 120 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 600/4788/4 | Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Engineering | 120 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 601/0924/5 | Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Engineering Design and Product Investigation | 120 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 601/0925/7 | Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Engineering Electronics and Computer Control Technologies | 120 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 600/8645/2 | WJEC Level 1/2 Award In Engineering | 120 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 601/4558/4 | TLM Level 2 Certificate In Smart Product Design and Manufacture (QCF) * | 120 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 601/3319/3 | Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Engineering Materials and Manufacturing * | 120 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 601/0532/X | IMIAL Level 2 Certificate in Service and Maintenance Engineering (VRQ) | 228 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 600/6867/X | EAL Level 2 First Certificate in Engineering Technology | 230 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 601/0556/2 | VTCT Level 2 Certificate in Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy (VRQ) | 120 | Hair and beauty | Purpose |
| 600/4780/X | OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Health and Social Care | 120 | Health and social care | Purpose |
| 600/4782/3 | Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Health and Social Care | 120 | Health and social care | Purpose |

| QN | Qualification Title | Size (GLH) | Subject area | Qualification Purpose Statement |
|------------|---|------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 600/7044/4 | Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Hospitality | 120 | Hospitality and catering | Purpose |
| 601/4533/X | NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Food and Cookery (VRQ) * | 120 | Hospitality and catering | Purpose |
| 601/4555/9 | VTCT Level 2 Certificate in Hospitality and Tourism (VRQ) * | 120 | Hospitality and catering | Purpose |
| 600/7039/0 | City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate for IT Users (QCF) | 120 | ICT | Purpose |
| 600/6943/0 | BCS Level 2 ECDL Certificate in IT Application Skills (QCF) | 120 | ICT | Purpose |
| 600/6688/X | TLM Level 2 Certificate for IT User Skills in Open Systems and Enterprise (QCF) * | 120 | ICT | Purpose |
| 600/6906/5 | NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Creative Studies: Interactive Media (VRQ) | 120 | Media and communication | Purpose |
| 600/7043/2 | OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Creative iMedia | 120 | Media and communication | Purpose |
| 600/6831/0 | Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Creative Digital Media Production | 120 | Media and communication | Purpose |
| 600/6904/1 | NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Creative Studies: Music Technology (VRQ) | 120 | Music and performing arts | Purpose |
| 600/6990/9 | NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Creative Studies: Performance Skills (VRQ) | 120 | Music and performing arts | Purpose |
| 600/4785/9 | Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Performing Arts | 120 | Music and performing arts | Purpose |
| 600/6818/8 | Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Music | 120 | Music and performing arts | Purpose |
| 600/6657/X | RSL Level 2 Certificate in Technology for Music Practitioners (QCF) | 150 | Music and performing arts | Purpose |
| 600/6655/6 | RSL Level 2 Certificate in Performance for Music Practitioners (QCF) | 150 | Music and performing arts | Purpose |
| 600/6656/8 | RSL Level 2 Certificate in Composition for Music Practitioners (QCF) | 150 | Music and performing arts | Purpose |
| 600/8330/X | WJEC Level 1/2 Award in Retail Business | 120 | Retailing | Purpose |
| 601/4534/1 | NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Health and Fitness (VRQ) * | 120 | Sport | Purpose |
| 600/5121/8 | OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Sport Science | 120 | Sport | Purpose |
| 600/5123/1 | OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Sport Studies | 120 | Sport | Purpose |
| 600/4779/3 | Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Sport | 120 | Sport | Purpose |

| QN | Qualification Title | Size (GLH) | Subject area | Qualification Purpose Statement |
|----------------|--|------------|---|---------------------------------|
| 601/4554/7 | VTCT Level 2 Certificate in Sport and Active Leisure (VRQ) * | 120 | Sport | Purpose |
| 600/6512/6 | Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Travel and Tourism | 120 | Travel and tourism | Purpose |
| 600/9908/2 | WJEC Level 1/2 Award in Tourism | 120 | Travel and tourism | Purpose |
| Level 1 | | | | |
| 500/4991/4 | Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Business Administration (QCF) | 100 | Administration, accounting and personal finance | Purpose |
| 500/8053/2 | NCFE Level 1 Certificate in Interactive Media (QCF) | 90 | Art and design | Purpose |
| 500/8454/9 | NCFE Level 1 Award in Graphic Design (QCF) | 90 | Art and design | Purpose |
| 500/6540/3 | Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Art and Design (QCF) | 100 | Art and design | Purpose |
| 601/0489/2 | NCFE Level 1 Certificate in Creative Studies: Craft (VRQ) | 120 | Art and design | Purpose |
| 601/0677/3 | NCFE Level 1 Certificate in Art and Design (QCF) | 130 | Art and design | Purpose |
| 601/0315/2 | NCFE Level 1 Certificate in Business and Enterprise (VRQ) | 120 | Business | Purpose |
| 500/6139/2 | Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Caring for Children (QCF) | 100 | Child development and well-being | Purpose |
| 601/1198/7 | TLM Level 1 Certificate in Designing, Engineering and Constructing a Sustainable Built Environment (QCF) | 120 | Construction and the built environment | Purpose |
| 500/6591/9 | Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Construction (QCF) | 130 | Construction and the built environment | Purpose |
| 601/4557/2 | TLM Level 1 Certificate In Smart Product Design and Manufacture (QCF) * | 120 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 501/0305/2 | Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Engineering (QCF) | 130 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 601/4560/2 | EAL Level 1 Foundation Certificate in Engineering Technology * | 160 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 600/0879/9 | City & Guilds Level 1 Certificate in Engineering (QCF) | 180 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 501/0386/6 | EAL Level 1 Certificate in Engineering and Technology (QCF) | 200 | Engineering | Purpose |

| QN | Qualification Title | Size (GLH) | Subject area | Qualification Purpose Statement |
|------------|---|------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 601/0531/8 | IMIAl Level 1 Certificate in Service and Maintenance Engineering (VRQ) | 214 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 500/5458/2 | Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Health and Social Care (QCF) | 100 | Health and social care | Purpose |
| 601/0720/0 | Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Exploring the Caring Sectors (QCF) | 120 | Health and social care | Purpose |
| 500/7521/4 | Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Introduction to the Hospitality Industry (QCF) | 124 | Hospitality | Purpose |
| 500/6568/3 | Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate for IT Users (ITQ) (QCF) | 90 | ICT | Purpose |
| 601/4559/6 | TLM Level 1 Certificate In Open Systems and Enterprise (QCF) * | 120 | ICT | Purpose |
| 500/8423/9 | Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Creative Media Production (QCF) | 145 | Media and Communication | Purpose |
| 500/6606/7 | Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Performing Arts (QCF) | 90 | Music and performing arts | Purpose |
| 500/9177/3 | NCFE Level 1 Certificate in Performance Skills (QCF) | 120 | Music and performing arts | Purpose |
| 600/6651/9 | RSL Level 1 Certificate in Performance for Music Practitioners (QCF) | 150 | Music and performing arts | Purpose |
| 600/6652/0 | RSL Level 1 Certificate in Composition for Music Practitioners (QCF) | 150 | Music and performing arts | Purpose |
| 600/6653/2 | RSL Level 1 Certificate in Technology for Music Practitioners (QCF) | 150 | Music and performing arts | Purpose |
| 500/4989/6 | Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Sport and Active Leisure (QCF) | 100 | Sport | Purpose |
| 600/1238/9 | Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Introduction to the Travel and Tourism Industry (QCF) | 206 | Travel and tourism | Purpose |

Larger technical awards

The qualifications listed below are at least the size of two GCSEs (minimum 240GLH). These qualifications will be reported in performance table indicators as if they were on GCSE in size.

| QN | Qualification Title | Size (GLH) | Subject area | Qualification Purpose Statement |
|------------------------------|--|------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Level 2 and Level 1/2 | | | | |
| 600/6480/8 | City & Guilds Level 2 Principal Learning in Construction and the Built Environment | 420 | Construction and the built environment | Purpose |
| 601/0542/2 | IMIAL Level 2 Diploma in Service and Maintenance Engineering (VRQ) | 274 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 600/6880/2 | City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Mechanical Engineering (QCF) | 300 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 600/6868/1 | EAL Level 2 First Diploma in Engineering Technology | 330 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 600/6881/4 | City & Guilds Level 2 Diploma in Mechanical Engineering (QCF) | 360 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 600/6483/3 | City & Guilds Level 2 Principal Learning in Engineering | 420 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 600/6482/1 | City & Guilds Level 2 Principal Learning in Hair and Beauty Studies | 420 | Hair and beauty | Purpose |
| 500/4162/9 | VTCT Level 2 Principal Learning in Hair and Beauty Studies | 420 | Hair and beauty | Purpose |
| Level 1 | | | | |
| 600/6476/6 | City & Guilds Level 1 Principal Learning in Construction and the Built Environment | 240 | Construction and the built environment | Purpose |
| 500/6668/7 | Pearson BTEC Level 1 Diploma in Construction (QCF) | 370 | Construction and the built environment | Purpose |
| 601/0541/0 | IMIAL Level 1 Diploma in Service and Maintenance Engineering (VRQ) | 274 | Engineering | Purpose |
| 600/6479/1 | City & Guilds Level 1 Principal Learning in Hair and Beauty Studies | 240 | Hair and beauty | Purpose |
| 500/4160/5 | VTCT Level 1 Principal Learning in Hair and Beauty Studies | 240 | Hair and beauty | Purpose |



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