Essential Digital Skills Qualifications (EDSQs)

The government has announced a legal entitlement to funding for adults for essential digital skills qualifications which will come into effect from August 2020. Only qualifications that have been submitted to and successfully completed the Ofqual Technical Evaluation process will attract this funding. At the time of writing, all EDSQs proposed by awarding organisations are yet to complete this process.

However, we appreciate that centres need to plan in advance and so we wanted to share with you some information about the EDSQs we have developed which are currently undergoing technical evaluation at Ofqual. We have developed two qualifications at Entry 3 and two at Level 1:

Level	Qualification title	TQT	GLH
E3	OCNLR Entry Level Award in Essential Digital Skills for Everyday Life (E3)	50	48
1	OCNLR Level 1 Award in Essential Digital Skills for Everyday Life	60	48
E3	OCNLR Entry Level Award in Essential Digital Skills for Work (E3)	50	48
1	OCNLR Level 1 Award in Essential Digital Skills for Work	60	48

Some of the key characteristics proposed are as follows:

- all assessments are to be externally set and provided by OCN London
- all assessments are either internally marked or, in the case of 'simulation' assessments, assessed automatically by the assessment platform
- assessment methods used are in every case appropriate to the learner target group, inclusive and relevant, focusing on application of skills
- all assessments assess learners' practical ability via practical demonstrations, including the 'application' of underpinning knowledge.

OCN London is already in the process of 'trialling' assessments and other EDSQ elements with various centres. If you are interested in being involved in the testing process or have further questions about OCN London's approach to the EDSQs, please email our Head of Qualifications and Innovation, Colin Rugg-Easey c.rugg-easey@ocnlondon.org.uk

12th March 2020