



WELCOME

As the country celebrates the outstanding success of team GB at the Rio Olympics, here at OCN London we have our own achievement to boast about — albeit a more modest one. Our customer support team pulled out all the stops this year to issue Access to HE Diploma certificates to successful candidates in record time. The last batch left the building on 1 August, enabling learners to confirm their results to universities and colleges well in advance of the announcement of ‘A’ level results on 18 August.

Access is one of the three routes to higher level study eligible for entitlement funding for learners aged 19-23 who have not yet achieved their first full Level 3 qualification. The commission for social mobility, led by Alan Milburn, has emphasised the role of education in tackling some of the issues underpinning our divided society. It's timely then that our Access to HE conference on 12th October has the role of Access to HE in improving social mobility and inclusion as its key theme. We look forward to welcoming you to the debate.

Jacquie Mutter, Chief Executive, OCN London



SKILLS FOR PROFESSIONS

SPOTLIGHT ON PRE-ACCESS QUALIFICATIONS

As Access to HE Diploma enrolments get under way this month there will inevitably be applicants who need further preparation in study skills, maths and English before starting the intensive Access programme. That's why so many centres are taking up our fully funded [Level 2 Skills for Professions](#) and Level 2 Skills for Further Study qualifications (in [health/human sciences](#) and [humanities/social sciences](#)), created specifically for progression to higher level study.



NEW ASSESSMENT MATERIALS FOR LEVEL 1 QUALIFICATIONS

We have been talking to our centres to get their ideas on how we can improve our qualifications. High up their priority list are materials that support teaching, learning and assessment. So we have produced quality exemplar [materials for our Level 1 Skills for Professions qualifications](#). The materials include indicative unit content, schemes of work and assessments. Sample learning materials can be find [here](#). See also our [suite of Level 1 vocational qualifications](#). Also suitable for Study Programmes.



OCN LONDON LEVEL 3 QUALIFICATIONS ELIGIBLE FOR LOANS

Our range of Level 3 qualifications eligible for Advanced Learning Loans is expanding. [Find out more](#). The [Level 3 Certificate in Principles of Business and Administration](#) is our latest addition to the list. Ideal for people who want to develop an understanding of business and administration with a view to creating a successful career or progressing to further study.



ACCESS TO HE CONFERENCE WEDNESDAY 12 OCTOBER 2016

The theme of this year's Access to HE conference on Wednesday 12 October is improving social mobility and inclusion through Access to HE. Speakers include: Gordon Marsden, MP, Shadow Minister for Higher & Further Education and Skills; Julie Farmer, Head of Access, QAA; and Alan Jones, Professional Development Executive, UCAS

Starts: 10.00am. Finishes: 4.00pm.
Venue: Park Crescent Conference Centre, London W1 5PN. [Find out more and book.](#) See our portfolio of [Access to HE Diplomas](#) and [Pre-Access qualifications](#)



PREVENT DUTY AWARENESS

OCN London has developed qualifications to support public-facing bodies in their responsibilities as laid down in the Prevent Strategy. The [Level 1 Award in Prevent Duty Awareness](#) was requested by colleges to support their learner induction programmes. The [Level 3 Award in Prevent Duty Awareness](#) is designed mainly for staff and Governors/Trustees. Both qualifications are supported by on-line assessments. Find out more about the [Prevent Strategy](#).



HELPING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

In partnership with the Disabled Living Foundation, we have developed a [Level 2 Award in Assessing Daily Living Equipment for People with Disabilities](#). The aim is to provide professionals – mainly those dealing with independent living and rehabilitation services in the community - with the skills and knowledge to be able to assess and fit basic daily living equipment for people with disabilities.



DEMENTIA PATHFINDER AWARDS

Congratulations to all who received an award from [Dementia Pathfinders](#) on 19 July. A social enterprise that delivers education and learning for people working in dementia care, Dementia Pathfinders deliver our [Level 2 Award in Awareness of Dementia](#). We look forward to accrediting their 'Dance for Life' course in the near future!



LAMBETH ADULT LEARNING

Helping adults with poor literacy skills to develop their reading and writing is critical to improving their life chances. Lambeth Council offers a series of short courses, accredited by OCN London, designed to bring books to life through 'story stacks' that break down learning into manageable chunks. [Find out more.](#)



TERRENCE HIGGINS TRUST

The Terrence Higgins Trust employs a range of staff and volunteer peer ambassadors to take sexual health messages out to the community. For the last five years they have used OCN London to accredit their training courses. Staff and volunteers go into schools, youth centres, pharmacies and many other locations to provide sexual health training and generate awareness about HIV and AIDS. [Find out more.](#)



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

INCREASE IN STUDENTS FROM DISADVANTAGED BACKGROUNDS GAINING UNIVERSITY PLACES

Record numbers, around 424,000, have gained a university place this year — the highest ever on 'A' level results day. A fall in the number of 18 year-olds and the removal of the cap on student numbers means it is a “buyers’ market” with better opportunities of gaining a place. Students from disadvantaged backgrounds are now seven per cent more likely to go to university than in previous years. [Read more.](#)

SAINSBURY REVIEW OF POST-16 EDUCATION

The Review (published in July), which proposed wide-ranging reforms for post-16 education with a clear distinction between academic and vocational education, has attracted much comment and debate. The review contains proposals for a radical overhaul of post-16 education, with a plan for full implementation by 2020. Following the reshuffle in government departments, we wait to see whether all of the recommendations will still be implemented as stated by the previous Minister. U-turns are not uncommon. [Read more.](#) [Comments from the Federation of Awarding Bodies.](#)

APPRENTICESHIPS LEVY ANNOUNCEMENT

The long awaited details on the apprenticeships levy, published on 10 August, stated that most employers, except for very large companies, will only have to contribute 10 per cent to the cost of an apprenticeship from April 2017. [Read more.](#)

INSTITUTE FOR APPRENTICESHIPS – COMING IN 2018

Goodbye to the UK Commission for Employment and Skills which will close by 2017. Hello to a new Institute for Apprenticeships. From 2018 its remit will

expand to take on responsibility for delivering on the technical education reforms. [Read more.](#)

'GET SET FOR SUCCESS' IN PRISON EDUCATION

A new Personal Social Development (PSD) course, 'Get Set for Success', commissioned by the government and led by the Learning and Work Institute, has been trialled in three women's prisons. The programme, intended to tackle the level of re-offending by supporting progression into employment and improving life chances, has shown positive results in improving confidence and self-esteem amongst participants. [Read more.](#)

NEW SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION – JUSTINE GREENING

Justine Greening, who replaces Nicky Morgan, is the first Secretary of State for Education to have attended a comprehensive school. She has spoken of her desire to improve social mobility and champion people from disadvantaged education backgrounds. [Read more.](#)

NEW SKILLS MINISTER - ROBERT HALFON

Robert Halfon takes on Nick Boles' brief for Skills and Apprenticeships, incorporating further and higher education. He has expressed a strong commitment to apprenticeships – he was the first MP to hire an apprentice – and is a keen supporter of his local FE college in Harlow, Essex. [Read more.](#)

MINISTER FOR CIVIL SOCIETY - ROB WILSON

Rob Wilson continues as Minister for Civil Society. He will be based in the Department of Media, Culture and Sport and will also have responsibility for libraries. [Read more.](#)

[Upcoming Training](#)⁶

<http://us4.campaign-archive>

INTRODUCTION TO ASSESSMENT AND MODERATION

Tues 6 September, 10am-4pm

Aimed at tutors who are new to formal assessment and moderation, or new to OCN London accreditation and qualifications. The morning session will include an introduction to the principles of assessment and building learner portfolios, credit-based learning and evaluation. The afternoon session will cover

DEVELOPING YOUR INTERNAL MODERATION SKILLS

Wed 21 September, 10am-5pm

An accredited fast-track course to enable internal moderators who already have some experience, to further develop their knowledge and practice. Content includes how to construct an effective internal moderation plan, provide feedback to assessors and share good practice. This

the roles of internal moderator and Centre Moderator, and how to record outcomes. [More details](#)

[BOOK NOW](#)

course will be assessed. Successful completion, involving assignments and private study, leads to OCN London bespoke credits at Level 3. [More details](#)

[BOOK NOW](#)

LEVEL 3 AWARD IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Tues 24 January, Tues 31 January, Tues 7 February, 14 February 2017. Course starts at 10am.

NEW!

The OCNLR Level 3 Award in Education and Training is a replacement qualification for the Level 3 and 4 Awards in Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (PTLLS) and provides an introduction to teaching and training in a variety of contexts. The course will cover knowledge and understanding of the roles and responsibilities of teachers or trainers related to equality and diversity, legislation and meeting the needs of learners. Course content includes planning and delivery of sessions, motivating learners within a learning environment, assessment methods and record-keeping. Whilst the qualification doesn't specify teaching or training practice as a pre-requisite, it does require assessment of an observed micro-teaching session. [More details](#)

Click [here](#) to visit our website and find out more about our qualifications and bespoke accreditation options.

Contact us to discuss your needs on 020 7278 5511 or email us at enquiries@ocnlondon.org.uk.



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