

FAB 2017: Conference, Awards & Exhibition

19 & 20 October 2017,
Leicester Marriott Hotel

FAB Training Courses

Please click [here](#) to access the full list of training courses and to register.

- [Introduction to the awarding sector](#)
10:15 – 16:30, 07.11.2017
- [Multiple Choice Question Writing](#)
10.00 – 16.30, 14.11.2017
- [Introduction to malpractice investigation management \(Day 1\)](#)
10:15 – 16:30, 06.02.2018
- [An introduction to developing vocational qualifications](#)
10:15 – 16:30, 22.02.2018
- [Introduction to the awarding sector](#)
10:15 – 16:30, 28.02.2018
- [Handling complaints, appeals and enquiries](#)
10:15 – 16:30, 14.03.2018

FAB Group Meetings

Please click [here](#) to access the full list of group meetings and to register.

Upcoming meetings:

- [FAB Members Event](#)
11.00 – 16.00, 05.12.2017

FAB/JCQ Meetings

- [Scotland Advisory Group](#)
11.00 – 14.30, 16.11.2017
- [Northern Ireland Awarding Body Forum](#)
11.30 – 14.30, 06.12.2017

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Level 4 and 5 technical education to be reviewed

The Department for Education (DfE) has confirmed its intention to extend technical education reforms to higher levels and its plans to review higher level technical education. This review builds on the [Post-16 Skills Plan](#).

The review will look across Level 4 and 5 education, focusing on how technical qualifications at this level can better address the needs of learners and employers. This includes ensuring that learners can progress from T Levels, and other full-time education, into the workplace. It will also consider how these qualifications work for those in the workforce looking to upskill or retrain.

The review will cover the whole of Level 4 and 5 education, with a particular focus on technical qualifications.

Members are invited to express their interest in this higher-level review activity by emailing ailin.ocathain@awarding.org.uk. FAB has been contacted by DfE about this work and we would like to ensure we represent members' views fully in our future dialogue with DfE.

External Events

- **Next steps for SEND policy - SEND reforms, funding, local area inspections and best practice in provision**
09 November 2017
(08:30 – 13:00)
- **Next steps for sport in primary and secondary schools - new funding, the healthy schools rating, and improving the quality of PE**
30 November 2017
(08:30 – 13:00)
- **Raising educational attainment and improving social mobility in England**
18 January 2018
(08:30 – 13:00)

FAB Consultant and Supplier List

Looking for a supplier or consultant? **Search** [here](#).

FAB Legal Package

Looking for legal services? **Click** [here](#).

FAB Webinars

These webinars provide information/training on topics related to vocational education and training. They are free for individuals from FAB member organisations and £100 (ex VAT) for individuals from non-member organisations, unless otherwise indicated.

Please click the links below for full details and to register:

- **Ensuring a fit for purpose complaints process**
15 November 2017
(10:15 – 11:15)
- **Competition Law and AOs- what you need to know**
22 November 2017
(10:15 – 11:15)

You can engage directly with the review by contacting Level4-5.Team@education.gov.uk.

Further information can be found here: [Level 4 & 5 technical education to be reviewed](#).

Department for Education announces £10 million Flexible Learning Fund

The Department for Education (DfE) has launched the **Flexible Learning Fund**. The Fund is part of a range of initiatives signalled in the Green Paper 'Building our Industrial Strategy' that focus on exploring and testing new approaches to lifelong learning for adults. It is intended that the Fund will provide grant support to projects that develop accessible and flexible learning approaches and packages for adults. Successful projects will also need to include a delivery phase where the flexible learning approaches and packages can be piloted.

Project proposals for the Fund can be submitted by a range of organisations, including awarding organisations. Because of the delivery component, proposals will need to include at least one delivery partner who is currently on the [Register of Training Organisations](#) with an Adult Education Budget allocation and/or Advanced Learner Loans facility agreement. The Fund is open for applications until midnight on **31 January 2018**. Full details of the Fund, and how to apply can be found at [Flexible Learning Fund](#). Queries and questions about the Fund can be emailed to: Fund.FLEXIBLE-LEARNING@education.gov.uk.

Ofqual Board Papers – March and May 2017

Ofqual has published the papers relating to its March and May 2017 Board meetings. The papers include a Vocational and Technical Qualifications Update but, unfortunately, the majority of these papers have been redacted. The May 2017 Chief Operating Officer's report provides some interesting information on the number of AOs and the number of applications for recognition:

- The total number of recognised Awarding Organisations stands at 155, having fallen by three over the last 12 months.
- We (Ofqual) last recognised a new organisation 18 months ago.
- We (Ofqual) received 80 applications for recognition during 2016/17, representing a 67% increase from the 54 applications last year. We completed eight applications from prospective AOs in March. We rejected seven, with one moving to stage two. We have an additional three applications at stage two, one of which are from an existing awarding organisations. We have not received any recognition applications from organisations looking to offer End Point Assessments.

Further information can be found here: [March 2017 Board Papers](#) and [May 2017 Board Papers](#).

Apprenticeship service registrations and commitments to September 2017

The Department for Education (DfE) has published statistics from the apprenticeship service, including registered apprenticeship services accounts and commitments, reported to 30 September 2017. The publication shows that, as at 30 September 2017:

- there has been a total of 11,100 apprenticeship service accounts (ASA) registered
- there has been a total of 55,400 commitments entered into the apprenticeship service.

Watch it again

Please click the links below to view recordings of past FAB webinars. Membership login details will be required:

- [Ofqual Event Notifications](#)
01 November 2017
(15:00 – 16:00)
- [Update on the National Occupational Standards \(NOS\) Programme](#)
21 September 2017
(13:30 – 14:30)
- [The legal implications of Brexit for AOs](#)
13 September 2017
(10:15 – 11:15)
- [Key findings- Ofqual Employer Qualifications Perception Survey](#)
05 September 2017
(10:15 – 11:15)
- [End Point Assessments - A guide to contractual clauses](#)
09 August 2017
(10:15 – 11:15)
- [The Awarding Organisation Landscape for non-executives](#)
02 August 2017
(10:15 – 11:15)
- [2017 to 2018 Adult Education Budget funding rules and qualification offer](#)
01 August 2017
(14:15 – 13:15)
- [Preparing for the General Data Protection Regulation](#)
05 July 2017
(10:15 – 11:15)
- [Making qualifications inclusive to disabled learners](#)
16 June 2017
(10:15 – 11:15)
- [The Benefits of Open Badging in End-Point Assessment](#)
14 June 2017
(11:15 – 12:15)

For recordings of more past webinars click [here](#).

Further information can be found here: [Apprenticeship service registrations and commitments to September 2017](#).

Call for AOs to participate in new qualifications for Hospitality Apprenticeships in N Ireland

People 1st, appointed through the Annual Standards and Frameworks Programme, undertook the development of New Apprenticeships and Traineeships for Hospitality in Northern Ireland. This involved working with employers in Northern Ireland to identify the standards for new traineeship and apprenticeship/traineeship frameworks at Levels 2 and 3, along with the appropriate qualifications. New qualifications are required and People 1st will lead the project for a number of AOs to work collaboratively to develop these new qualifications. A 2-day meeting is scheduled to take place in London at the end of November to commence this work. If you would like to be involved, please contact Annette Allmark – Annette.Allmark@people1st.co.uk or Roisin McKee – roisin.mckee@people1st.co.uk for further details.

16-19 education funding in England since 2010

The House of Commons Library Service has published a summary of reforms that have been made to the 16-19 education funding system since 2010, including the introduction of a new funding formula from 2013-14 that replaced the previous per-qualification funding model with a system of per-student funding.

Further information can be found here: [16-19 education funding in England since 2010](#).

Justine Greening's evidence to the Education Committee on the work of DfE

Last week, the Secretary of State for Education, Justine Greening, provided oral evidence to the Education Committee on the work of the Department for Education (DfE). During the evidence session, the Secretary of State commented on technical education and comments included:

- Technical education has not been at the world class level that our young people deserve and as a consequence the half of our young people now who do not go to university, who simply want a different route to continue their learning, need and deserve a much higher quality path for technical education, one that is high quality and respected and designed by employers, that streamlines them through into careers.
- We broadly remain on track in relation to 3 million apprenticeships. There has been 1 million since 2015. They are genuinely transforming the quality of technical education, the options that young people have, in a way that means that for them as they get to be higher level they are starting to significantly compete with the option of going to university.

When questioned on technical education (Q56) and the amount per student funding for post-16 education would be raised by in preparation for T levels, the Secretary of State confirmed that 'we need to continue to look at the investment that the sector needs to make sure it is ready to deliver these T levels successfully'. The Secretary of State also confirmed that there were no plans to change Progress 8 at the moment and appeared to avoid answering the question about where T level students might be able to mix aspects of both pathways.

The evidence provided has now been published alongside a video of the evidence session. Further information can be found here: [Evidence given by Rt Hon Justine Greening MP, Secretary of State for Education](#).

Jobs at

www.awarding.org.uk

- **Academic Director**
NCUK
Closes 05.11.17
- **Assessment Operations Officer (Maternity cover - fixed term contract)**
AAT
Closes 06.11.17
- **Regulatory Policy Manager**
AAT
Closes 06.11.17
- **Test Lead**
AAT
Closes 06.11.17
- **Customer Support Advisor (Training Providers and Employers)**
AAT
Closes 06.11.17
- **Customer Support Advisor (Individuals)**
AAT
Closes 06.11.17
- **Customer Support Advisor (Operations)**
AAT
Closes 06.11.17
- **Qualification and Assessment Development Manager**
CITY & GUILDS
Closes 06.11.17
- **Development Manager**
CITY & GUILDS
Closes 06.11.17
- **Centre Support Administrative Assistant/Receptionist**
ABC AWARDS
Closes 06.11.17
- **Head of Product Management**
ABE
Closes 07.11.17
- **Administrator (Awarding Body)**
ASA - AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION
Closes 07.11.17

Economics of higher, further and technical education inquiry

The Economic Affairs Committee is conducting an inquiry into the economics of higher education, further education and vocational training. The inquiry is investigating how post-school education is funded and whether it is focused sufficiently on the skills which the British economy requires.

Video recordings of the evidence sessions to date have now been made available as well as the written evidence that was submitted by a wide range of organisations (including FAB's written evidence submission).

Further information can be found here: [Economics of higher, further and technical education inquiry](#).

Educating for our Economic Future

The Education Policy Institute and Pearson have published a report entitled 'Educating for our Economic Future', which seeks to expand on some of the themes outlined in the 2014 report 'Making Education Work'. The latest report also addresses several new topics, including trends in employment over the past three years, quantitative comparisons of the skill levels of school leavers educated in other countries (especially in literacy and numeracy), charting the changing employment landscape in modern economies, the challenges to creating different educational pathways, and how best to develop a culture of lifelong learning.

The report presents nine recommendations for urgent action, including recommendations related to the Skills Plan and Apprenticeships:

- The Government should develop a coherent vision for post-16 education that takes into account the full range of pathways sought by young people, avoids undue focus on access to three-year undergraduate degrees at the expense of other qualifications, and links effectively with the key stage 4 curriculum. T levels should be designed to fit with this wider vision.
- The Government should avoid focusing on narrow numerical targets for apprenticeships and should develop broader measures of success that consider the quality of training and its value to employers and learners. Being able to assert with evidence that these routes are beneficial will be a vital part of improving their reputation with learners and their parents. Given the dependence of apprentices on the sustainability of their employer's business for their programme of training, it should consider how to ensure learners can move between apprenticeships and classroom-based technical routes, and whether transparent and portable qualifications should play a role in apprenticeship standards to enable them to market their knowledge more widely.

The report also includes six recommendations for longer term policy development and one of these is that it should explore the development of personal learning accounts or other ways to give people better access to training to upskill or change careers in later life.

Further information can be found here: [Educating for our Economic Future](#).

Michael Heseltine's response to the Government's Industrial Strategy Green Paper

Michael Heseltine has published his response to the Government's Industrial Strategy Green Paper which includes a section on the role of education (page 56-62). In that section, he asserts that 'In the international competitive race, the harsh truth for the UK is that the Department for Education is not fit for purpose.' Much of the section focuses on schools with just a short section (page 61) on the skills agenda which highlights an 'urgent need to engage both public and private employers in the provision of the skills they need and can employ' and suggest that

Jobs at

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- **Principle Examiner for Functional Skills Mathematics**
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- **Subject Matter Experts (SMEs)**
AAT
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- **Examination and Centre Approvals Co-ordinator**
1ST4SPORT
QUALIFICATIONS
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- **Senior Quality Consultants (three posts available)**
CSKILLS AWARDS PART OF NOCN GROUP
Closes 13.11.17
- **Administrator**
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- **Assessment Coordinator**
AAT
Closes 13.11.17
- **Qualifications & Product Development Administrator**
AAT
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- **Head of Examinations and Assessment**
TPP
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- **PR Officer**
CILEX LAW SCHOOL
Closes 13.11.17
- **Apprenticeship Administration Manager**
CILEX LAW SCHOOL
Closes 13.11.17
- **Assessment Administrator**
VTCT
Closes 14.11.17
- **LEGAL ASSESSORS/TRAINERS**
CILEX LAW SCHOOL
Closes 15.11.17

this will 'happen faster and more effectively if ownership of the training colleges and their syllabuses became subject to far greater local control. The mayoral authorities and the LEPs should be involved with the unitary authorities '.

Further information can be found here: [A response to the Government's Green Paper](#).

Universities Minister pledges £15m funding for new engineering institution

Earlier this week, the Universities Minister, Jo Johnson, announced funding of up to £15 million over 3 years to support the establishment of a new higher education provider specialising in high-quality engineering courses.

The New Model in Technology & Engineering (NMiTE) aims to become the first new 'greenfield' university in the UK for 30 years, addressing the growing need for engineering talent in sectors such as advanced manufacturing, artificial intelligence and cyber-security. NMiTE will train up the next generation of engineers, providing the skills that employers need.

Further information can be found here: [£15m funding for new engineering institution](#).

New opportunity from Exporting is GREAT: Saudi Arabia - International training providers

Exporting is GREAT has published information for organisations who can provide training and development programmes that can:

- develop e-learning courses or any form of training materials for high school graduates, in order to improve their safety behaviours
- work on project based business to develop training materials related to the oil and gas field
- train or improve the skills of teachers, especially in the academic side.

Proposals should be submitted by 15 November 2017 to the Department for International Trade in Saudi Arabia.

Further information can be found here: [Exporting is GREAT](#).

OCR Policy Briefing

These updates are provided courtesy of OCR. FAB would like to extend its thanks to OCR for permitting the sharing of these with members.

- [Latest from OCR Policy Briefing](#)

Pearson's Policy Watch

These updates are provided courtesy of Pearson. FAB would like to extend its thanks to Pearson for permitting the sharing of these with members.

- [Latest from Policy Watch](#)

Dysg eNewsletter

These updates are provided courtesy of Dysg, part of the Welsh Assembly Government. FAB would like to extend its thanks to Dysg for permitting the sharing of these ebulletins with members.

- [Latest from Dysg eNewsletter \(Post-11\)](#)

Department for International Trade (DIT)

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Closes 16.11.17
- **Curriculum Mapping and Programme Specification Writing**
PEOPLE 1ST
Closes 16.11.17
- **Head of Assessment Services**
ACTIVE IQ
Closes 17.11.17
- **Senior Product Manager**
INNOVATE AWARDING
Closes 17.11.17
- **Centre Support Officer**
OCN LONDON
Closes 17.11.17
- **Product Manager**
CITY & GUILDS
Closes 19.11.17
- **External Quality Assurers**
ASCENTIS
Closes 22.11.17
- **Assessment and Operations Manager**
ABE
Closes 22.11.17
- **Associates with Qualification Development and Assessment expertise**
GATEWAY
QUALIFICATIONS
Closes 30.11.17
- **End Point Assessors**
CILEX
Remote work
Closes 30.11.17
- **Regulation Compliance Committee (RCC) Member**
CMI
Closes 30.11.17
- **Functional Skills Question Paper Writers (Maths and English)**
GATEWAY
QUALIFICATIONS
Closes 31.12.17
- **Chair of Examiners**
NCC EDUCATION
Closes 08.01.18

- [Get the latest from Great Britain](#)

The latest version of the DTI webinar schedule can be accessed here:

- [DIT Webinar Schedule](#)