

#### 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 malpractice investigation management \(Day 1\)](#)  
10:15 – 16:30, 18.10.2017
- [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

#### FAB Group Meetings

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

##### Upcoming meetings:

- [FAB Functional Skills Group](#)  
11:00 – 15:30, 17.10.2017
- [FAB Functional Skills Group](#)  
11:00 – 14:00, 14.11.2017
- [FAB Members Event](#)  
11.00 – 16.00, 05.12.2017
- [FAB/TAF Apprenticeship Group](#)  
10:30 – 12:30, 13.12.2017

#### 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

### In this Update: 13 October 2017

(Click a title below to go straight to a particular article)

- [FAB CEO Comment](#)
- [T Level Action Plan](#)
- [Chairs for T Level Panels appointed](#)
- [See you on Thursday for FAB 2017!](#)
- [What are the labour market outcomes associated with vocational education and training?](#)
- [Education Secretary opens new technical education college](#)
- [Scope of recognition- updated](#)
- [The Ofqual handbook is now live \(preview version\)](#)
- [Inclusion of Technical & Applied qualifications in performance tables beyond 2019](#)
- [Discount Codes for Northern Ireland](#)
- [Key stage 4 qualifications, discount codes and point scores](#)
- [16 to 19 qualifications, discount codes and point scores](#)
- [Institute for Apprenticeships launches new website](#)
- [Institute for Apprenticeships consultation on draft Quality Statement – FAB draft response](#)
- [ESFA information – Adult Education Budget, Advanced learner Loans and Choices at 16](#)
- [Further education and skills: October 2017](#)
- [FAB Training: An Introduction to Malpractice Investigation – 18 October 2017](#)
- [OCR Policy Briefing](#)
- [Pearson's Policy Watch](#)
- [Dysg eNewsletter](#)
- [Department for International Trade \(DIT\)](#)

#### FAB CEO Comment

For many years government support for exporters has underestimated the importance of the technical and vocational education and training (TVET) sector. However, with an increasingly mobile workforce and global markets demanding world class skills, it is now impossible to ignore the growing impact of TVET both in absolute financial terms as well as the benefits it brings to the in-country learners and wider economy.

With this in mind, I was delighted to be part of the launch on Tuesday of the UK Skills Partnership, a Department for International Trade (DIT) supported group that brings together a wide range of representative bodies in the TVET sector including FAB. The aim of the group is to promote UK TVET internationally, as well as

#### External Events

- [Where next for Higher and Degree Apprenticeships?](#)  
18 October 2017  
(08:30 – 13:00)
- [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:

- [Ofqual Event Notifications](#)  
01 November 2017  
(15:00 – 16:00)
- [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)

providing practical support for UK TVET organisations that want to export their products and services.

The vast majority of global TVET is casual and undocumented. However, the formal recorded global TVET market alone is worth an estimated £200bn and growing rapidly. The importance of world class TVET is reflected in the UN Sustainable Development Goal 4 "By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship." UK awarding organisations already play a leading role and we are well placed to benefit from this expansion.

The UK has the world's most dynamic, experienced and well respected TVET awarding sector. FAB will work with our partners to ensure that we take the lead in this vital global market.

#### T Level Action Plan

The Department for Education (DfE) has published the T Level Action Plan, which sets out the Government's recent progress in the delivery of the T level reform programme and immediate next steps. Although the action plan doesn't say much that is new, it does include useful clarification, particularly in relation to the detail of which routes will be launched first and how the roll-out will proceed in subsequent years:

- The first 3 routes that will be rolled out in 2020 will be Digital, Construction, and Education and Childcare. Limited pathways within these routes will be launched.
- 2021 will see the full routes implemented for Digital, Construction, Education and Childcare, Legal, Finance and Accounting, Engineering and Manufacturing, Health and Science.
- 2022 will see the implementation of the full routes in the remaining T-level areas of Hair and Beauty, Agriculture, Environment and Animal Care, Business and Administrative, Catering and Hospitality, Creative and Design.
- Transport and Logistics, Sales, Marketing and Procurement, Social Care, Protective Services will be apprenticeship only routes.

Other points to note include:

- The ambition is that the majority of providers will be offering T levels by 2024.
- Public engagement has been promised on the occupational maps **before the end of the year** to continue to collect feedback on the maps from a wide number of interested parties, including awarding organisations.
- DfE has commissioned an independent research organisation to work with employers, providers, awarding organisations and others to explore approaches to structuring, assessing and grading the qualifications. This will inform wider consultation on design principles for T levels later in the year.
- The qualifications will be offered under **exclusive licensing**, in line with the recommendations of the Independent Panel on Technical Education. (There is no sign of this being dropped as an approach despite the significant risks that it presents to the Government and learners).
- Accountability measures for T levels will be developed alongside the programme. These measures will provide external confidence in the quality of T level delivery, at provider and sector level, and support effective oversight and inspection.
- As a general principle, DfE expects the number of qualifications that are funded for 16 to 19 year olds to reduce substantially in the future.

#### Watch it again

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

- [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)
- [A referral to the Ofqual legal enforcement team – how to respond](#)  
07 June 2017  
(10:15 – 11:15)

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

- The overall regulatory and assurance system for T level qualifications will be different from that for A levels and GCSEs and other existing vocational qualifications.

FAB will continue to liaise closely with DfE to ensure members are consulted and kept up to date as this implementation gathers further momentum.

Further information can be found here: [T Level Action Plan](#).

#### Chairs for T Level Panels appointed

On 11 October 2017, the Department for Education (DfE) announced that the Chairs for the T Level Panels have been appointed. They include representatives from Fujitsu, IBM and the Bank of England. Further information can be found here: [Education Secretary announces first new T levels](#).

#### See you on Thursday for FAB 2017!

There is less than a week to go to the FAB 2017 Conference, Awards and Exhibition, on 19 and 20 October at the Marriott Hotel in Leicester. FAB 2017 is the ideal opportunity to catch up on all the latest issues affecting AOs, to network with colleagues (existing and new) and to find out more about the products and services offered by 30 suppliers to the industry.

#### Keynote sessions & speakers:

- Reform of the qualifications landscape: The Regulator's Perspective – Sally Collier, Chief Regulator, Ofqual
- Rising to the challenges and opportunities as a sector – Paul Eeles, Chair, Federation of Awarding Bodies
- Funding and End Point Assessment update – Nick Linford, Director of LSECT and Editor of FE Week
- How will it work with T Levels & apprenticeships? – David Hughes, Chief Executive, Association of Colleges
- New world, new rules. Collaborating to achieve high quality end point assessments and the best outcomes for apprentices – Simon Ashworth, Chief
- From the margins to the mainstream: the changing status of further education – Stephen Exley, TES Further Education Editor
- Up to the job? Using the apprenticeship levy to tackle educational opportunity – Kathleen Henehan, Research and Policy Analyst at Resolution Foundation
- The first six months – progress to date – Nikki Christie, Deputy Director, Assessment and Quality at Institute for Apprenticeships
- Academic or Technical – is parity in sight? – Baroness Sue Garden of Frogval, Liberal Democrat Spokesperson for Higher Education and Skills

#### Seminar topics:

- The apprenticeship service: the end-point assessment digital journey
- Ofqual and the changing apprenticeship landscape
- Apprenticeships – progress and challenges
- Building a professional awarding network
- An update on Qualification Wales' programme of sector reviews
- The end point assessment contract: Key issues
- How Ofqual uses evidence and intelligence and what it means for you

### Jobs at

[www.awarding.org.uk](http://www.awarding.org.uk)

- **Chief Examiner (Functional Skills Maths)**  
NCFE  
Closes 16.10.17
- **Senior End Point Assessment Manager**  
TPP Closes 16.10.17
- **Practice & Membership Support Officer**  
CILEx  
Closes 16.10.17
- **Administration Assistant**  
CABWI AWARDDING BODY  
Closes 17.10.17
- **Quality Assurance Manager**  
ABE  
Closes 18.10.17
- **Centre Manager**  
AGORED CYMRU  
Closes 19.10.17
- **ILM External Verifiers**  
ILM  
Closes 20.10.17
- **Sector Manager Hospitality and Retail**  
PEARSON  
Closes 20.10.17
- **Membership Recruitment Advisor**  
AAT  
Closes 30.11.-1
- **Chief Examiner - Foundation in PR**  
CIPR  
Closes 25.10.17
- **Chief Examiner - Professional PR Certificate - Unit 1 - PR in Context**  
CIPR  
Closes 25.10.17
- **Chief Examiner - Professional PR Certificate - Unit 2 - Content, Media and Engagement**  
CIPR  
Closes 25.10.17

- An update on T-Levels
- Words matter in qualifications development
- Social media and awarding bodies
- Regulation in Northern Ireland
- Opportunities for international trade
- Legal update: what awarding organisations need to know

If you have not yet booked your places – there is still time! One-day tickets are just £195 + vat for FAB members (£390 for both days).

We look forward to celebrating the FAB 2017 Awards with you on 19 October where we will announce the Award winners.

For further information and to book click here: [FAB 2017 Conference, Awards and Exhibition](#).

### What are the labour market outcomes associated with vocational education and training?

The Centre for Vocational Education research (CVER) has published a research paper and a blog on the labour market outcomes associated with vocational education and training. The research used matched Longitudinal Education Outcomes to estimate the association between achieving vocational qualifications at different levels of the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) and labour market outcomes such as earnings, employments and benefits dependency.

Key findings include:

- The association between vocational qualification achievement and labour market outcomes is **generally positive and significant for most qualification aims** at the different levels (for both males and females) – and particularly large for Level 4 vocational qualifications, Apprenticeships, and NVQs at Level 3 and 2.
- **Earnings differentials are particularly high for Level 4 vocational qualifications** (37% and 26% for males and females respectively); Advanced Apprenticeships (40% and 21% compared to the level below and 25% and 16% compared to Intermediate Apprenticeships); NVQs at Level 3 (19% and 11%); Intermediate Apprenticeships (22% and 12%).
- In contrast to a number of other studies, the analysis also illustrates a **strong positive earnings differential for NVQ Level 2 qualifications** (16% and 9% for males and females respectively).
- **The association between employment and vocational qualifications is more important at lower levels of education.** Specifically, the association between vocational qualifications and employment ranges between 5 and 10 percentage points at Levels 3 and 4 (relative to the baseline).

The full research paper can be found here: [The earnings differentials associated with vocational education and training using the Longitudinal Education Outcomes data](#).

### Education Secretary opens new technical education college

Earlier this week, the Education Secretary visited Doncaster for the launch of the new National College for High Speed Rail (NCHSR). The college is the largest of five new national colleges created by the Government 'to ensure young people can learn world-class technical skills, including, engineering, design, planning, manufacturing and construction.'

#### Jobs at

[www.awarding.org.uk](http://www.awarding.org.uk)

- **Chief Examiner - Professional PR Certificate - Unit 3 - Measurement, Evaluation and Professional Ethics**  
CIPR  
Closes 25.10.17
- **Chief Examiner - Specialist Certificate (Internal Communications)**  
CIPR  
Closes 25.10.17
- **Chief Examiner - Specialist Diploma (Internal Communications)**  
CIPR  
Closes 25.10.17
- **Chief Examiner - Specialist Diploma (Public Affairs)**  
CIPR  
Closes 25.10.17
- **Chief Examiner - Specialist Diploma (Crisis Communications)**  
CIPR  
Closes 25.10.17
- **Investigation and Compliance Manager**  
CITY AND GUILDS  
Closes 25.10.17
- **Functional Skills Question Paper Writers (Maths and English)**  
GATEWAY  
QUALIFICATIONS  
Closes 27.10.17
- **Product Quality & Administration Manager**  
IMI  
Closes 30.10.17
- **External Quality Assurer**  
IMI  
Closes 30.10.17
- **Quality Manager - Police & MoD**  
CMI  
Closes 30.10.17
- **Education Officer**  
RSPH  
Closes 30.10.17

Further information can be found here: [Education Secretary opens new high speed rail college.](#)

#### Scope of recognition- updated

Ofqual has published an updated version of the document which lists the scope of recognition for each awarding organisation. Members may find it useful to check this document to ensure the specified scope for their AO matches with their understanding of their scope.

Further information can be found here: [Scope of recognition.](#)

#### The Ofqual handbook is now live (preview version)

Ofqual has published the preview version of its new online handbook which is a new resource that brings together all of the general rules and guidance.

The handbook can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ofqual-handbook>, as well as from the Ofqual homepage and the awarding organisation portal. Ofqual will be **gathering feedback** on this new format for the rest of the year, before taking decisions on roll-out early in 2018. You can **complete the survey** or **email Ofqual** to let them know what you think.

To help users navigate their way around the content Ofqual recently hosted a webinar and a recording of the webinar can be viewed here: [Ofqual Handbook Webinar.](#)

#### Inclusion of Technical & Applied qualifications in performance tables beyond 2019

The Department for Education (DfE) has confirmed that the current requirements for technical and applied qualifications included in performance tables will remain in place for a further year. This means that qualifications put forward for teaching from September 2018 and inclusion in the 2020 performance tables will be judged against the same characteristics as set out in the [2019 Technical Guidance](#).

DfE has indicated that it expects the first submission deadline to be in early December and it will confirm details of this year's submission process and the timeline for each stage in the next few weeks.

Ministers have indicated that they want to review the characteristics ahead of DfE inviting approvals for the 2021 process and DfE will want to engage with awarding organisations as it conducts the review. In making decisions on the development of new qualifications in the meantime, DfE has advised that awarding organisations should bear in mind that there is no guarantee that qualifications that meet the criteria for inclusion in the 2020 tables will meet revised criteria for inclusion from 2021 onwards.

#### Discount Codes for Northern Ireland

The Department of Education (DE) in Northern Ireland requires that all qualifications used in schools in Northern Ireland are assigned a discount code for purposes of measuring school performance. The discount code assigned to qualifications should be taken from the NI Discount Code list and should be assigned by the awarding organisation. The list has recently been revised and can be found here: [NI Discount Code List 2017/18.](#)

It is important that any new qualification you develop and intend to offer in Northern Ireland schools is assigned a discount code from the revised NI Discount Codes list. There is a facility on the Ofqual/CCEA portal (the Portal) which allows an AO to include this information when submitting qualification(s).

## Jobs at

[www.awarding.org.uk](http://www.awarding.org.uk)

- **External Verifier -Risk Management**  
ATHE  
Closes 03.11.17
- **Academic Director**  
NCUK  
Closes 05.11.17
- **External Quality Assurers**  
ASCENTIS  
Closes 22.11.17

## Key stage 4 qualifications, discount codes and point scores

The Department for Education (DfE) has published a list of approved key stage 4 qualifications and discount codes for reporting in the 2014 to 2019 school and college performance tables.

Further information can be found here: [Key stage 4 qualifications](#).

## 16 to 19 qualifications, discount codes and point scores

The Department for Education (DfE) has published a list of approved 16 to 19 qualifications and discount codes for reporting in the 2014 to 2019 school and college performance tables.

Further information can be found here: [16 to 19 qualifications](#).

## Institute for Apprenticeships launches new website

The Institute for Apprenticeships has launched its new website. Content created by the Institute and its publications have been historically hosted on GOV.UK – the move to an independent domain reflects the evolution of the Institute and its independent, employer-led approach.

The new website can be found at [www.ifapprenticeships.org](http://www.ifapprenticeships.org).

## Institute for Apprenticeships consultation on draft Quality Statement – FAB draft response

The Institute for Apprenticeships (IFA) recently launched a consultation on its draft Quality Statement, which aims to set out its understanding of what makes a high-quality apprenticeship.

The consultation will close on 18 October 2017 and the FAB draft response can be found here: [Draft FAB Response to IFA draft Quality Statement \(Member login details required\)](#). Members' feedback is welcome and any comments can be sent to [ailin.ocathain@awarding.org.uk](mailto:ailin.ocathain@awarding.org.uk) by the close of business on 17 October.

## ESFA information – Adult Education Budget, Advanced learner Loans and Choices at 16

The Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) has published a range of information this week, including:

- the slides for the bite-sized webinars that were held during September which focused on the following areas:
  - [legal entitlement/local offer/eligibility](#)
  - [traineeships](#)
  - [English/maths/ESOL](#)
  - [rates and funding approach](#)
- A [narrated presentation](#) on the 2017 to 18 Adult Education Budget funding rules.
- A [narrated presentation](#) to support the 2017 to 2018 Advanced Learner Loans funding and performance management rules version 2.
- [Choices at 16 questionnaire](#), which is intended to help ESFA to understand views on students entering 16+ education and making career choices. With the introduction of T-levels on the way, this is a good time to look at how students make their post-16 choices and consider how best DfE services can support their decision making.

### Further education and skills: October 2017

The Department for Education (DfE) has published statistics about learner participation, outcomes and highest qualification held in further education and skills, reported for October 2017. Key points include:

- There were 491,300 apprenticeship starts in the 2016/17 academic year based on provisional full-year data, compared to 503,700 reported at this time in 2015/16, a decrease of 2.5 per cent.
- Since the introduction of the apprenticeship levy in April 2017, there have been 18,500 levy-supported starts.
- There were 23,700 apprenticeship starts reported on standards so far in 2016/17, compared to 3,800 reported at the same point in 2015/16.
- 2,233,200 learners had participated in adult further education by the end of 2016/17, compared to 2,318,700 reported at this time in 2015/16, a decrease of 3.7 per cent.

Further information can be found here: [Further education and skills: October 2017](#).

### FAB Training: An Introduction to Malpractice Investigation – 18 October 2017

The final few places are available for the FAB training on 18 October in London. This course provides delegates with an introduction to malpractice, investigation management, strategy and planning and conducting investigations. Delegates will have the opportunity to practice basic interview techniques through the use of role play during the course.

The course is ideally suited to those who are relatively new to dealing with cases of malpractice and who need to understand issues relating to malpractice and the steps that can be taken to investigate suspected incidents of malpractice. It is also suited to those who play a supporting role in the investigation of malpractice and associated interviews.

Further information about the course and how to book can be found here: [An introduction to malpractice investigation management \(Day 1\)](#) (log-in to apply member discount).

### 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)

To sign up to the DTI newsletter for exporters click here:

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

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

- [DIT Webinar Schedule](#)