

Foundation Learning Practitioners Forum
Cambridge Regional College - 3rd November 09

Questions and Answers from the day

Q. Has the guidance on Foundation Learning from Adults been released yet?

A. Taken from the QCDA/LSC Foundation Learning Tier: Interim Guidance, Draft working version for 2009/10: May 2009 *“Foundation Learning in Further Education and appropriate aspects of First Steps learning will be incorporated into the Foundation Learning Tier offer. There remains an expectation, based on the research and development undertaken to date, that the vast majority of both Foundation Learning and First Steps provision could and should be accredited into the QCF. The LSC continues to explore the implications and consequences of this position to understand the scope and nature of provision that might remain outside of the QCF. First Steps provision in 2009/10 will remain largely unchanged; providers are however encouraged to explore current and developing QCF provision with awarding organisations and other partners, with a view to introducing appropriate QCF qualifications to replace their current First Steps offer / provision during 2009/10 and 2010/11”.*

Q. How much of our provision this year and/or next year needs to be Foundation Learning Provision?

A. The LSC state on their website that *“In 2009/10, LSC funded providers are working towards the LSC’s Foundation Learning planning aspiration of 30% of new starts on entry level and level 1 provision beginning a Foundation Learning personalised programme, this is as described in the LSC Statement of Priorities – [Investing in our future through learning and skills](#) “*

Q. When is entitlement and what does entitlement really mean?

A. LSC state that *“All areas will deliver some Foundation Learning for 14 to 19 year-old learners by 2010 – with local authorities and 14-19 Partnerships leading this process, working collaboratively with consortia where appropriate and bringing in all schools, colleges and other relevant providers in 2011/12 and 2012/13. Foundation Learning will then align with the Diploma and Apprenticeship entitlements and the first step in the raising of the participation age in 2013.”*

Q. Is funding with the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) ring fenced? What has happened to existing funding?

A. In the document **Foundation Learning Tier: 14-19 Delivery Guidance for 2009/10** the following is stated regarding funding *“In terms of funding, in 2009/10, Foundation Learning in schools pre-16 is supported from the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), including the DSG element earmarked for practical and applied learning at Key Stage 4; plus other sources such as, where appropriate, specific grants including the specialist schools grant, School Standards Grant, and School Development Grant; and the Key Stage 4 Engagement Programme (in its last year as a discrete and separately funded programme in 2009/10 pending its integration into Foundation Learning).”*

Q. Is the Foundation Learning Catalogue complete?

A. No, it can’t be. Transfer of provision into the QCF is on going, and there will be more and more Qualifications appearing in the catalogue.

Q. Will adults be able to access Qualifications as single units?

A. In the document **Foundation Learning Tier: 14-19 Delivery Guidance for 2009/10** the following is stated regarding learners achievements *"For Foundation Learning, units can only be delivered as part of an overall qualification and not on a stand-alone / ad hoc basis. If a learner changes destination, provider or area part way through a qualification, they can transfer the credits achieved to another qualification that includes the same units."*

Q. Will the NOCN Step-UP Qualifications go below E3?

A. No, below Entry 3 Centres should be looking at the personal progress and independent living Qualifications.

Q. Regarding Functional Skills assessments – do the Speaking and Listening externally set assignments have to be sent to NOCN for marking?

A. Yes

The next event will take place in February at City College Norwich. Please email us if you would like an invitation.

For more information on Foundation Learning and qualifications available from OCN Eastern Region, please contact your Development Manager or call the office on 01206 873023 and ask for a Development Support Officer.

