



Department
for Education

2017 key stage 4 performance tables: qualifications in the technical award category

July 2015 (replaces June 2015 version)

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Introduction

This is the final list of qualifications that have been approved by the Department for Education (DfE) for teaching to 14-16 year olds from September 2015. These qualifications will be reported in the **technical award** category of the 2017 key stage 4 performance tables (and published in early 2018). They will be reported alongside other qualifications such as full course GCSEs¹, accredited IGCSE-style qualifications, AS levels and other Level 3 qualifications².

Qualifications that have been approved for reporting in the performance tables for the first time are indicated with an asterisk (*) after the title.

Qualifications that have been added since the first list of technical awards was published in December 2014 are indicated with a hash symbol (#) after the title.

At level 2, qualifications can only be reported in the technical awards category if they are the same size or larger than a GCSE (120 guided learning hours). Qualifications that are larger than a GCSE will be reported as if they were one GCSE in size.

Technical awards are broad, high quality level 1 and level 2 qualifications that equip students with applied knowledge and associated practical skills not usually acquired through general education. **At key stage 4, students are encouraged to take up to three technical awards alongside a minimum of five academic GCSEs from the list of EBacc subjects**³. Further details about key stage 4 performance measures are available at the following link: [Progress 8 performance measure](#)

The list contains the qualification number and title and links to information about its purpose and value for further study. This will help students and parents decide which vocational qualifications best meet their learning needs and aspirations.

These links were correct on 10 December 2014. DfE cannot be held responsible for any omissions after this date. This is because the information is held on the website of the examination awarding organisation that offers the qualification. DfE will ensure that any omissions reported to them are corrected wherever possible. Please report any omissions to: vq.reform@education.gsi.gov.uk

¹ Please note that the only Level 1/Level 2 English and mathematics qualifications that will count in the 2017 key stage 4 tables will be the new reformed GCSEs.

² Graded music qualifications at grade 6 and above and free standing maths qualifications.

³ For further information see: the [School Performance Table user guides folder](#) and the "List of qualifications that count in the EBacc".

Please note: Schools and colleges may offer qualifications that are not included in the performance tables, if approved for teaching to 14-16 year olds, where this is the best interests of each of their individual students.

Headline performance measures at key stage 4

In 2013, DfE announced significant reforms to the school performance tables. These affect the reporting of exams taken in the summer of 2016 onwards. The new headline measures for school performance will be:

- progress across 8 subjects (which we are calling Progress 8);
- attainment across 8 subjects (which we are calling Attainment 8);
- the percentage of pupils achieving a C grade or better in both GCSE or IGCSE English and maths;
- the English Baccalaureate⁴.

Further details about these reforms are available at the following link:

[Secondary school accountability consultation](#)

The qualifications listed in this document count for up to three of the eight subjects in the Progress 8 and Attainment 8 headline measures. They will not count towards the five slots reserved for English, maths and other EBacc qualifications.

Further information can be found at the following link:

[School performance tables methodology and technical guides](#)

Discount codes

Qualifications which will count in the key stage 4 performance tables for the first time in 2017 have been allocated discount codes. These are held on the [Performance Tables website](#).

⁴ Only AS levels taken early, GCSEs, established IGCSEs and EBacc level 2 and level 1/2 Certificate qualifications will count in the EBacc.

Qualifications that will be included in the technical award category in the 2017 key stage 4 performance tables

Technical awards of a similar size to one GCSE

The qualifications listed below are at least the size of one GCSE (a GCSE being measured as 120 guided learning hours). Up to three vocational qualifications can count towards the new Progress 8 and Attainment 8 indicators being introduced for performance measures based on 2016 exam results.

QN	Qualification Title	Size (GLH)	Subject area	Qualification Purpose Statement
Level 2 and Level 1/2				
601/1147/1	CISI Level 2 Certificate In Fundamentals of Business & Finance (QCF)	120	Administration, accounting and personal finance	Purpose
601/1239/6	IFS Level 2 Certificate in Financial Education (QCF)	130	Administration, accounting and personal finance	Purpose
601/4530/4	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Animal Care #	120	Animal Care	Purpose
600/6907/7	NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Creative Studies: Graphic Design (VRQ)	120	Art and design	Purpose
601/0043/6	NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Creative Studies: Craft (VRQ)	120	Art and design	Purpose
600/4781/1	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Art and Design	120	Art and design	Purpose
600/5502/9	WJEC Level 1/2 Award in Creative and Media	120	Art and design	Purpose
600/6905/3	NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Creative Studies: Art and Design (VRQ)	150	Art and design	Purpose
601/0048/5	NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Business and Enterprise (VRQ)	120	Business	Purpose
600/5080/9	OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Business and Enterprise	120	Business	Purpose
600/4786/0	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Business	120	Business	Purpose
600/6814/0	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Children's Play, Learning and Development	120	Child development and well-being	Purpose
600/6644/1	CACHE Level 2 Award in Child Development and Care (VRQ)	125	Child development and well-being	Purpose

QN	Qualification Title	Size (GLH)	Subject area	Qualification Purpose Statement
600/6817/6	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Construction and the Built Environment	120	Construction and the built environment	Purpose
601/0543/4	WJEC Level 1/2 Award In Constructing the Built Environment	120	Construction and the built environment	Purpose
601/1271/2	WJEC Level 1/2 Award In Planning and Maintaining the Built Environment	120	Construction and the built environment	Purpose
601/1199/9	TLM Level 2 Certificate in Designing, Engineering, and Constructing a Sustainable Built Environment (QCF)	120	Construction and the built environment	Purpose
601/0426/0	WJEC Level 1/2 Award In Designing the Built Environment	120	Construction and the built environment	Purpose
601/1219/0	OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Engineering Manufacture	120	Engineering	Purpose
601/1273/6	OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Principles in Engineering and Engineering Business	120	Engineering	Purpose
601/1407/1	OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Systems Control in Engineering	120	Engineering	Purpose
601/1411/3	OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Engineering Design	120	Engineering	Purpose
600/4788/4	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Engineering	120	Engineering	Purpose
601/0924/5	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Engineering Design and Product Investigation	120	Engineering	Purpose
601/0925/7	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Engineering Electronics and Computer Control Technologies	120	Engineering	Purpose
601/4532/8	NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Engineering Studies (VRQ) #	120	Engineering	Purpose
600/8645/2	WJEC Level 1/2 Award In Engineering	120	Engineering	Purpose
601/4558/4	TLM Level 2 Certificate In Smart Product Design and Manufacture (QCF) *	120	Engineering	Purpose
601/3319/3	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Engineering Materials and Manufacturing *	120	Engineering	Purpose
601/0532/X	IMIAL Level 2 Certificate in Service and Maintenance Engineering (VRQ)	228	Engineering	Purpose
600/6867/X	EAL Level 2 First Certificate in Engineering Technology	230	Engineering	Purpose

QN	Qualification Title	Size (GLH)	Subject area	Qualification Purpose Statement
601/0556/2	VTCT Level 2 Certificate in Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy (VRQ)	120	Hair and beauty	Purpose
600/4780/X	OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Health and Social Care	120	Health and social care	Purpose
600/4782/3	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Health and Social Care	120	Health and social care	Purpose
600/7044/4	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Hospitality	120	Hospitality and catering	Purpose
601/4533/X	NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Food and Cookery (VRQ) *	120	Hospitality and catering	Purpose
601/4555/9	VTCT Level 2 Certificate in Hospitality and Tourism (VRQ) *	120	Hospitality and catering	Purpose
600/7039/0	City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate for IT Users (QCF)	120	ICT	Purpose
600/6943/0	BCS Level 2 ECDL Certificate in IT Application Skills (QCF)	120	ICT	Purpose
600/6627/1	Pearson Edexcel Level 2 Certificate in Digital Applications #	120	ICT	Purpose
600/4789/6	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Information and Creative Technology #	120	ICT	Purpose
600/4776/8	OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in ICT #	120	ICT	Purpose
600/6688/X	TLM Level 2 Certificate for IT User Skills in Open Systems and Enterprise (QCF) *	120	ICT	Purpose
600/6906/5	NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Creative Studies: Interactive Media (VRQ)	120	Media and communication	Purpose
600/7043/2	OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Creative iMedia	120	Media and communication	Purpose
600/6831/0	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Creative Digital Media Production	120	Media and communication	Purpose
600/6904/1	NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Creative Studies: Music Technology (VRQ)	120	Music and performing arts	Purpose
600/6990/9	NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Creative Studies: Performance Skills (VRQ)	120	Music and performing arts	Purpose
600/4785/9	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Performing Arts	120	Music and performing arts	Purpose
600/6818/8	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Music	120	Music and performing arts	Purpose
600/6657/X	RSL Level 2 Certificate in Technology for Music Practitioners (QCF)	150	Music and performing arts	Purpose
600/6655/6	RSL Level 2 Certificate in Performance for Music Practitioners (QCF)	150	Music and performing arts	Purpose

QN	Qualification Title	Size (GLH)	Subject area	Qualification Purpose Statement
600/6656/8	RSL Level 2 Certificate in Composition for Music Practitioners (QCF)	150	Music and performing arts	Purpose
600/8330/X	WJEC Level 1/2 Award in Retail Business	120	Retailing	Purpose
601/4534/1	NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Health and Fitness (VRQ) *	120	Sport	Purpose
600/5121/8	OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Sport Science	120	Sport	Purpose
600/5123/1	OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Sport Studies	120	Sport	Purpose
600/4779/3	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Sport	120	Sport	Purpose
601/4554/7	VTCT Level 2 Certificate in Sport and Active Leisure (VRQ) *	120	Sport	Purpose
600/6512/6	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Travel and Tourism	120	Travel and tourism	Purpose
600/9908/2	WJEC Level 1/2 Award in Tourism	120	Travel and tourism	Purpose
Level 1				
500/4991/4	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Business Administration (QCF)	100	Administration, accounting and personal finance	Purpose
500/8053/2	NCFE Level 1 Certificate in Interactive Media (QCF)	90	Art and design	Purpose
500/8454/9	NCFE Level 1 Award in Graphic Design (QCF)	90	Art and design	Purpose
500/6540/3	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Art and Design (QCF)	100	Art and design	Purpose
601/0489/2	NCFE Level 1 Certificate in Creative Studies: Craft (VRQ)	120	Art and design	Purpose
601/0677/3	NCFE Level 1 Certificate in Art and Design (QCF)	130	Art and design	Purpose
601/0315/2	NCFE Level 1 Certificate in Business and Enterprise (VRQ)	120	Business	Purpose
500/6139/2	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Caring for Children (QCF)	100	Child development and well-being	Purpose
601/1198/7	TLM Level 1 Certificate in Designing, Engineering and Constructing a Sustainable Built Environment (QCF)	120	Construction and the built environment	Purpose
500/6591/9	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Construction (QCF)	130	Construction and the built environment	Purpose
601/4592/4	NCFE Level 1 Certificate in Engineering Studies (VRQ) * #	120	Engineering	Purpose

QN	Qualification Title	Size (GLH)	Subject area	Qualification Purpose Statement
601/4557/2	TLM Level 1 Certificate In Smart Product Design and Manufacture (QCF) *	120	Engineering	Purpose
501/0305/2	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Engineering (QCF)	130	Engineering	Purpose
601/4560/2	EAL Level 1 Foundation Certificate in Engineering Technology *	160	Engineering	Purpose
600/0879/9	City & Guilds Level 1 Certificate in Engineering (QCF)	180	Engineering	Purpose
501/0386/6	EAL Level 1 Certificate in Engineering and Technology (QCF)	200	Engineering	Purpose
601/0531/8	IMIAL Level 1 Certificate in Service and Maintenance Engineering (VRQ)	214	Engineering	Purpose
500/5458/2	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Health and Social Care (QCF)	100	Health and social care	Purpose
601/0720/0	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Exploring the Caring Sectors (QCF)	120	Health and social care	Purpose
601/4661/8	NCFE Level 1 Certificate in Food and Cookery (VRQ) * #	120	Hospitality	Purpose
500/7521/4	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Introduction to the Hospitality Industry (QCF)	124	Hospitality	Purpose
500/6568/3	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate for IT Users (ITQ) (QCF)	90	ICT	Purpose
601/4559/6	TLM Level 1 Certificate In Open Systems and Enterprise (QCF) *	120	ICT	Purpose
500/8423/9	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Creative Media Production (QCF)	145	Media and communication	Purpose
500/6606/7	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Performing Arts (QCF)	90	Music and performing arts	Purpose
500/9177/3	NCFE Level 1 Certificate in Performance Skills (QCF)	120	Music and performing arts	Purpose
600/6651/9	RSL Level 1 Certificate in Performance for Music Practitioners (QCF)	150	Music and performing arts	Purpose
600/6652/0	RSL Level 1 Certificate in Composition for Music Practitioners (QCF)	150	Music and performing arts	Purpose
600/6653/2	RSL Level 1 Certificate in Technology for Music Practitioners (QCF)	150	Music and performing arts	Purpose
500/4989/6	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Sport and Active Leisure (QCF)	100	Sport	Purpose
601/4662/X	NCFE Level 1 Certificate in Health and Fitness (VRQ) * #	120	Sport	Purpose
600/1238/9	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Certificate in Introduction to the Travel and Tourism Industry (QCF)	206	Travel and tourism	Purpose

Larger technical awards

The qualifications listed below are at least the size of two GCSEs (minimum 240GLH). These qualifications will be reported in performance table indicators as if they are one GCSE in size.

QN	Qualification Title	Size (GLH)	Subject area	Qualification Purpose Statement
Level 2 and Level 1/2				
600/6480/8	City & Guilds Level 2 Principal Learning in Construction and the Built Environment	420	Construction and the built environment	Purpose
601/0542/2	IMIAL Level 2 Diploma in Service and Maintenance Engineering (VRQ)	274	Engineering	Purpose
600/6880/2	City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Mechanical Engineering (QCF)	300	Engineering	Purpose
600/6868/1	EAL Level 2 First Diploma in Engineering Technology	330	Engineering	Purpose
600/6881/4	City & Guilds Level 2 Diploma in Mechanical Engineering (QCF)	360	Engineering	Purpose
600/6483/3	City & Guilds Level 2 Principal Learning in Engineering	420	Engineering	Purpose
600/6482/1	City & Guilds Level 2 Principal Learning in Hair and Beauty Studies	420	Hair and beauty	Purpose
500/4162/9	VTCT Level 2 Principal Learning in Hair and Beauty Studies	420	Hair and beauty	Purpose
Level 1				
600/6476/6	City & Guilds Level 1 Principal Learning in Construction and the Built Environment	240	Construction and the built environment	Purpose
500/6668/7	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Diploma in Construction (QCF)	370	Construction and the built environment	Purpose
601/0541/0	IMIAL Level 1 Diploma in Service and Maintenance Engineering (VRQ)	274	Engineering	Purpose
600/6479/1	City & Guilds Level 1 Principal Learning in Hair and Beauty Studies	240	Hair and beauty	Purpose
500/4160/5	VTCT Level 1 Principal Learning in Hair and Beauty Studies	240	Hair and beauty	Purpose

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