

Criteria for Key Skills Qualifications

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The criteria

Introduction

1. The following criteria will be used as the basis for the development and accreditation of all Key Skills qualifications.
2. Criteria for Key Skills qualifications were previously published within *The Statutory Regulation of External Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland* (2004).

Content

3. Qualifications that use any of the following terms in their titles must be based on the specifications developed by the regulators:
 - Key Skills
 - Key Skills qualifications
 - application of number
 - communication
 - information technology
 - improving own learning and performance
 - problem solving
 - working with others.

Assessment

4. Qualifications in Key Skills must use the assessment model specified by the regulators.
5. If the assessment method includes tests, awarding organisations must use the agreed national tests and allow candidates to take the tests as many times as they want. If the tests do not have pre-set pass marks, the awarding organisations must agree the pass marks at meetings that include all of the awarding organisations involved in the relevant assessment series.

6. Awarding organisations must:
 - 6.1 participate in cross-awarding organisation moderation activities for internal assessment;
 - 6.2 carry out random checks, after the final date of completion, on centres where nearly completed portfolios were included in the moderation process.

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