



Consultation on the reform of the WJEC Vocational Award in Events (Technical Award)

Our current Vocational Award in Event Operations was launched for first teaching in 2015 with the first assessment in 2017. It has been approved as a Technical Award for inclusion in Key Stage 4 performance tables since 2017 and will remain on the performance tables until 2023.

We are currently reforming this qualification to meet the new Ofqual and DfE requirements for qualifications to be included in performance tables from 2024 onwards. At the same time, we are taking the opportunity to revise and update the qualification to reflect changes in the sector and feedback from centres.

We are currently seeking views from centres on our high-level proposals. Feedback at this stage will help inform the final shape and content of the qualification. The consultation questions are included in a link at the end of this document.

The specification for our current Vocational Award in Event Operations can be downloaded from the [Eduqas Website](#)

The UK Events Industry

The events industry brings in more than £41 billion to the UK economy. The latest available data estimates that the individual segments of the events sector are worth:

- conferences and meetings - £19.2 billion
- UK exhibitions and trade shows - £11 billion
- global exhibitions by UK organisers - £2 billion
- sporting events – £2.3 billion
- music events - £2.3 billion
- incentive travel and performance improvement - £1.2 billion
- corporate hospitality - £1.2 billion
- outdoor events -£1.1 billion
- festivals and cultural events £1.1 billion¹

¹ <https://www.businessvisitsandeventspartnership.com/research-and-publications/research/category/4-bvep-research?download=285:opportunities-for-global-growth-in-britain-s-events-sector>

The UK hosts many sporting events ranging from the Olympics Games to the Grand National. The UK also hosts the World Travel Market, other international exhibitions and other events such as Glastonbury, the Edinburgh Fringe and film festivals.

The reformed Vocational Award in Events

The reformed WJEC Vocational Award in Events is being designed to provide learners aged 14-16 with a broad introduction to the events industry and support progression to further learning. Learners will develop a range of general and specialist knowledge, understanding and skills that will support their progression to further study. The qualification is being designed so that it will complement other subjects at 14-16 including our revised Vocational Awards in Hospitality and Catering, Sport and Coaching Principles, and Performing Arts.

Proposals relating to the qualification structure

We propose that the reformed qualification is updated to a two-unit structure with the externally assessed unit contributing 40% to the overall grade of the qualification and the internally assessed unit contributing the remaining 60%.

Unit number	Unit title	Assessment	GLH
1	The events industry	External	48
2	Planning and running an event	Internal	72

This structure has been designed to allow learners to develop underpinning knowledge and understanding of the events industry; then move on to how to plan, run and evaluate an event.

Unit 1

Unit title	The events industry
Purpose of unit	In this unit learners will gain knowledge and understanding of the events industry and how to effectively plan a successful event. Learners will study employment opportunities including the skills, qualifications and qualities needed to work in the events industry.
Guided Learning Hours	48
Topics covered	<p>1.1 Introduction to the events industry</p> <p>1.2 Employment in the events industry</p> <p>1.3 The events business environment</p>
Summary of assessment	Externally assessed through an on-screen examination. This assessment contributes 40% to the overall qualification grade.

Unit 2

Unit title	Planning and running an event
Overview of unit	The purpose of this unit is for learners to draw on their knowledge and experience of the events industry and the factors contributing the success of events. Learners will gain knowledge and understanding of how to research, plan, coordinate, execute and evaluate their own event.
Guided Learning Hours	72
Topics	2.1 Factors to consider when planning a successful event 2.2 Event planning and organisation 2.3 Running an event 2.4 Event evaluation
Summary of assessment	This unit is internally assessed and contributes 60% to the overall qualification grade. Learners will apply the knowledge gained in this unit to a given brief.

Proposals relating to our approach to assessment

Unit 1 will be externally assessed and will assess underpinning knowledge and understanding of key characteristics and requirements of the events industry. This unit is currently assessed through a written examination available on-screen or on paper.

We propose that, in the reformed qualification, this unit will be assessed through an on-screen examination. Feedback from both centres and learners has indicated that the current on-screen assessment is engaging and motivating for learners. On-screen assessment will also allow us to introduce new and innovative question types including the use of audio and/or video clips where appropriate. The first assessment of this qualification will be in 2024 and we anticipate that there will be greater use of technology in learning and assessment by this time. We will keep this proposal under review throughout the development process and will continue to consult with centres and stakeholders to ensure that schools have the technical infrastructure in place before we make a final decision.

Unit 2 will be internally assessed and will primarily assesses the learner's planning, organisational and evaluative skills. We propose that this unit is assessed through a practical task-based assessment completed under controlled conditions. Controlled assessment in our Vocational Awards is designed so that knowledge, skills and understanding are assessed through tasks that have many of the characteristics of real work in the sector. Assignment briefs are designed around an applied context which acts as a focus for the assessment. Due to the nature of the subject, it is our intention that the majority of the marks for Unit 2 will be awarded for the practical running of an event.

Additional areas for consideration

In addition to your views on the proposals for this qualification we are also interested in hearing your views on a number of other areas including resources. Within the online form, there is an opportunity to join a closed forum to discuss these areas further.

Consultation questions

To provide your views on these proposals please complete the online survey [here](#).

Please note that the consultation opens on Wednesday, 6th May, and will close on Sunday, 31st May 2020.