

A photograph showing three people in a classroom or office setting. In the foreground, a person with long brown hair is seen from behind, looking down at a piece of paper. In the middle ground, a young man with short brown hair, wearing a white shirt and a striped tie, is smiling and looking towards the camera. To his right, another young man with dark hair, wearing a white shirt and a pink bow tie, is looking down at a piece of paper. They are all seated at a light-colored wooden desk.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS (NI)

2016 REFRESH

**REVISED STANDARDS, QUALIFICATIONS
AND ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

FROM SEPTEMBER 2016

THE ESSENTIAL SKILLS STRATEGY WAS ORIGINALLY LAUNCHED IN 2002, THE ADULT LITERACY/NUMERACY CORE CURRICULA DATE FROM 2001, AND THE QUALIFICATIONS HAVEN'T CHANGED SINCE 2004...

1

Progress clearly made, but PISA and PIAAC surveys suggest more still to do.

2

New standards and curriculum to underpin teaching and learning.

3

More robust and focused assessment model.

4

Continued commitment to Essential Skills (alongside GCSE).

Qualification changes involve:

- external assessment of Level 1-2 Application of Number
- external assessment of Level 1-2 Communication (Reading/Writing)
- internal assessment of Level 1-2 Communication (Speaking/Listening)
- no changes to existing Entry level Literacy/Numeracy, nor to ICT.

REFRESHED ESSENTIAL SKILLS

INTRODUCING 4800...



MATHS &
ENGLISH

REVISED ESSENTIAL SKILLS SUITE LIVE FROM 1 SEPTEMBER 2016

- New product code for Essential Skills suite: **4800**
(replacing 3800)
- 4800 comprises:

CODE	INCLUDES
4800-40	Entry level Certificate in Essential Skills – Adult Literacy <i>(migrated from 3800-40)</i> NEW Level 1 Certificate in Essential Skills – Communication NEW Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills – Communication
4800-50	Entry level Certificate in Essential Skills – Adult Numeracy <i>(migrated from 3800-50)</i> NEW Level 1 Certificate in Essential Skills – Application of Number NEW Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills – Application of Number
4800-60	Level 1 Certificate in Essential Skills – Information and Communication Technology Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills – Information and Communication Technology <i>(both migrated from 3800-60)</i>

- 3800 **closed** to new registrations on 31 August 2016, last certification 31 August 2017.

REFRESHED ESSENTIAL SKILLS

NEW ASSESSMENT MODEL



MATHS &
ENGLISH

MOVE TOWARDS 'END' ASSESSMENT

Communication/Literacy and Application of Number/Numeracy now assessed entirely through a concentrated one-off activity, with no ongoing portfolio building.

- **Communication at levels 1 and 2**
 - Reading/Writing: externally set and marked (single paper, with discrete Reading and Writing sections)
 - Speaking & Listening: criterion-based internal assessment (involving discussion, talk/presentation).
- **Application of Number at levels 1 and 2**
 - Externally set and marked (single paper covering all skill standards).
- **Entry level Adult Literacy and Numeracy**
 - No change – existing task-based assessments continue.
- **ICT at levels 1 and 2**
 - No change – existing portfolio assessment continues.

**NEW STANDARDS
AND CURRICULUM
FOR LITERACY
AND NUMERACY
FROM DfE
(FORMERLY DEL).**

**UNDERPINS
TEACHING AND
LEARNING.**

**QUALIFICATIONS
SPECIFICATIONS
ALIGNED WITH
STANDARDS'
TECHNICAL
DEMAND, THOUGH
ALSO REQUIRE
PRACTICAL
APPLICATION OF
SKILLS.**

REFRESHED ESSENTIAL SKILLS

STANDARDS VS QUALIFICATIONS



MATHS &
ENGLISH

ESSENTIAL SKILLS STANDARDS AND CURRICULUM

- Published by NI Department for the Economy (DfE) (formerly DEL).
- Sets out technical range of literacy/numeracy skills, knowledge and understanding expected at each level, with examples of contexts where these could be taught.
- Replaces Adult Literacy/Numeracy standards and core curricula (though in practice doesn't involve any significant content changes).
- Should underpin all teaching of Essential Skills.



ESSENTIAL SKILLS QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATIONS

- Qualification/Subject Criteria devised by CCEA Regulation.
- Used by awarding organisations to design their qualifications – **so incorporated into our Essential Skills handbook.**
- Sets out the skill standards, coverage and range that the Essential Skills qualifications must assess, as well as prescribing the assessment model awarding organisations must follow.
- Technical content and demand aligns with DfE standards, although ES qualifications also require learners to be able to *apply* their literacy/numeracy within purposeful contexts.



REFRESHED ESSENTIAL SKILLS

LOCATING THE KEY DOCUMENTS



MATHS &
ENGLISH

Essential Skills (Northern Ireland) (4800)

Information Documents

Here you can find all documents related to this suite of qualifications.

By clicking on the section headings below, you can access a variety of documents such as the qualification handbooks and assessment materials, Statements of Purpose, and recognition letters from industry and employers.

Some documents may be password protected. Passwords can be retrieved by logging in to [WalledGarden.com](#) and visiting the Administration section of the relevant qualification catalogue page.

Interested in delivering this qualification?

Find out more about [how to become an approved City & Guilds centre](#) or fill out our [online customer application form](#).

4800 Entry Level



4800 Level 1



4800 Level 2



Centre documents



4800 Qualification handbook v1-0 pdf

843 KB

13 Sep 2016



DfE Essential Skills standards and curriculum - interactive pdf

5 MB

29 Jul 2016



LIKE TO OFFER THESE
QUALIFICATIONS?

To offer this qualification please submit an application and we'll help you get set up - you can become a City & Guilds qualification provider within 30 days.

[MAKE AN APPLICATION](#)

FOR LEARNERS

Where can you take this course?

Postal code, town or city

[FIND A CENTRE](#)

Sample
assessments

Click on '+'
icons to access

> (365) Essential Skills Northern Ireland
> (3800) Essential Skills Northern Ireland
> (370) Essential Skills Northern Ireland
> (371) Essential Skills Northern Ireland

Qualification
handbook

Standards and
curriculum

NEW QUALIFICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR FIRST TEACHING 1 SEPTEMBER 2016:

- Old Level 1-2 Communication and Application of Number qualifications withdrawn on 31 August 2016, with last certification for existing candidates 31 August 2017.
- New Level 1-2 Communication and Application of Number qualifications available for learners starting on/after 1 September 2016.
- New City & Guilds product code for Essential Skills suite (4800) live from 1 September 2016 – all new registrations from that date need to use this number.

EXISTING 3800 CENTRES APPROVED AUTOMATICALLY FOR 4800

- Approval is ‘same status’, ie with Direct Claims Status where applicable.

NB: DCS isn’t relevant when it comes to the new external assessments, since these are marked by City & Guilds.

**3800 CLOSED TO NEW REGISTRATIONS ON 31 AUGUST 2016.
LAST CERTIFICATION DATE FOR THOSE ALREADY REGISTERED IS 31 AUGUST 2017.**

ALL NEW (AND CONTINUING) ESSENTIAL SKILLS QUALIFICATIONS ARE ACCESSED VIA 4800 FROM SEPTEMBER 2016.

EXTERNAL ASSESSMENTS AVAILABLE ON-DEMAND

- No fixed assessment dates or windows
 - although assessments must be booked for a specific date/time at least **two weeks** ahead
- Entries must be for **named** candidates (who've already been registered for Essential Skills) – no substitutions allowed
- Assessment papers delivered in sealed packets
 - must be stored securely and not opened until immediately before use
- Candidates allowed to use 'normal ways of working' – including relevant technology
- Completed assessments posted back to City & Guilds for marking
- Results issued once papers have been marked and quality assured – available initially via Walled Garden, with hard copy confirmation (and certificates, where due) following a few days later.

SPEAKING & LISTENING FORMS/GUIDANCE AVAILABLE FROM 4800 WEBPAGE

- Record sheets supplied as Word documents
 - so can be reformatted or customised locally (so long as the contents aren't altered)
- Must be used in conjunction with more detailed guidance in handbook.

CONTINUING ENTRY LEVEL AND ICT QUALIFICATIONS MIGRATED TO 4800

- Sample and live Entry level tasks now on 4800 webpage
(will remain on 3800 page, as well, until August 2017)
- Portfolio assessment criteria and guidance incorporated into new handbook.

REFRESHED ESSENTIAL SKILLS

ASSESSMENT CONDUCT



MATHS &
ENGLISH

“Candidates are generally expected to use their normal methods of working, and within reason should be able to access any equipment that would routinely be available to them, as long as this does not:

- **enable candidates to**
 - **communicate or collude with other candidates, or with any third party external to the assessment, or**
 - **access the internet.**
- **include any pre-prepared notes, crib-sheets, tutor-developed or other materials designed specifically to assist with this assessment.”**

ES QUALIFICATION HANDBOOK

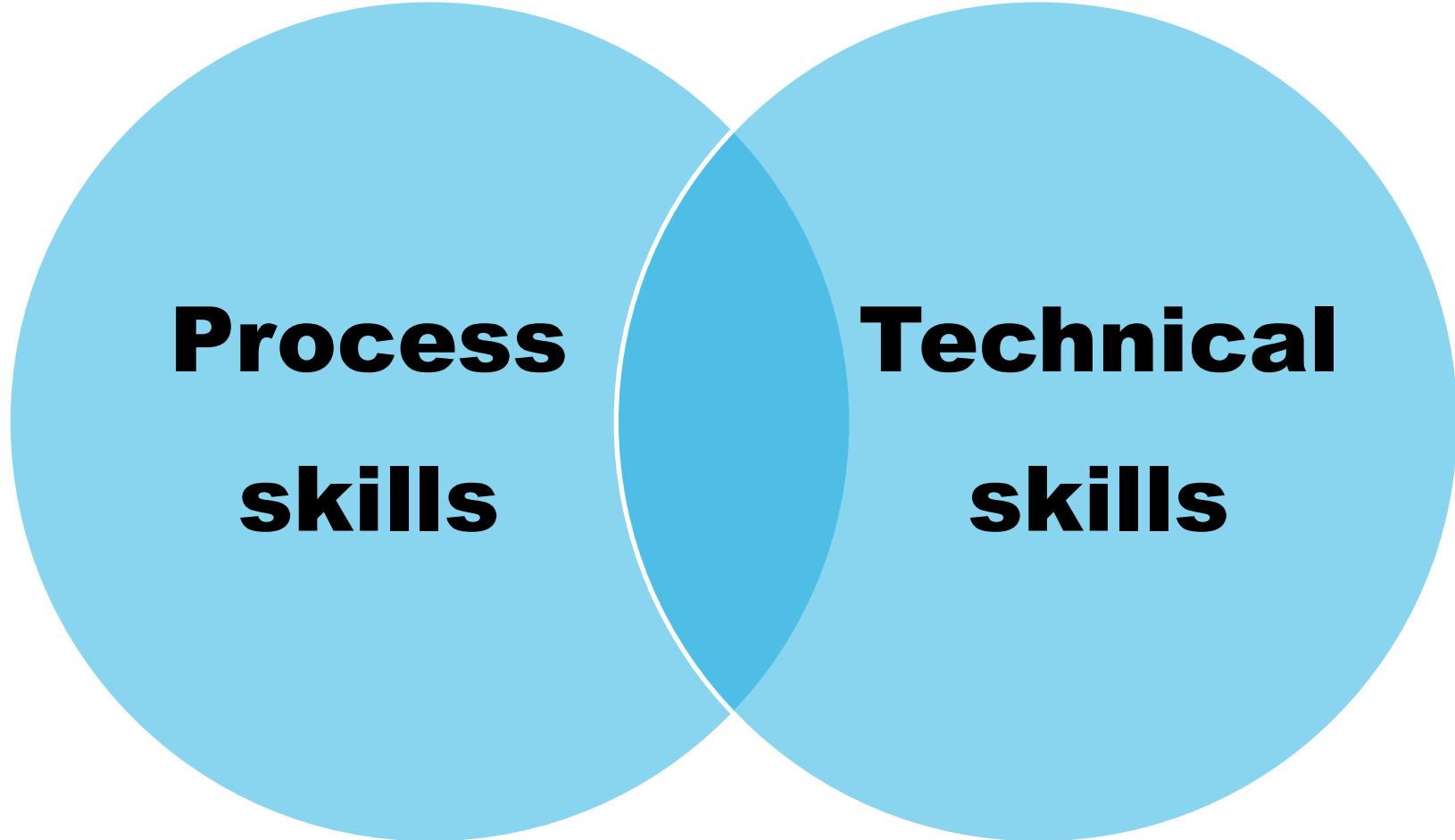
- No constraint on the use of spell/grammar checkers, dictionaries, calculators...
 - candidates expected to use their normal ways of working, so there's no finite list of permitted/prohibited items as long as these do not compromise security of the assessment.
- Assessments must be **continually** invigilated; subject to 'ICE principles', though with some additional flexibilities
 - qualification handbook clarifies further
 - invigilator role distinct from that of a teacher/tutor or assessor/IQA, although we don't specify who can/can't perform each of these roles.
- Candidates sitting paper-delivered assessments don't necessarily have to hand-write their responses.

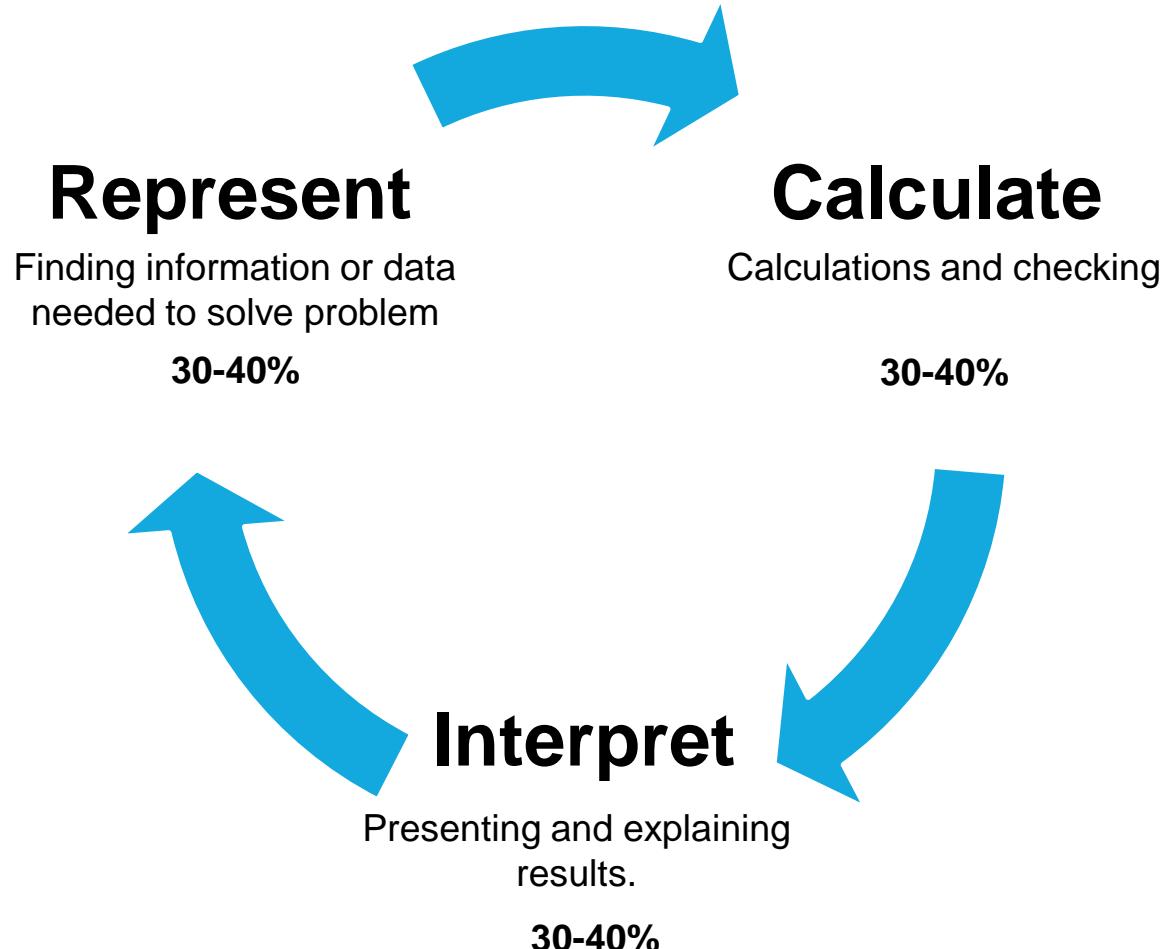
WHAT ARE WE ASSESSING?

ESSENTIAL SKILLS IS A BLEND



MATHS &
ENGLISH





E-TOOLKIT RESOURCES

WHAT'S AVAILABLE?

ACCESS TO A WEALTH OF MULTI-MEDIA TEACHING AND LEARNING RESOURCES

Developed in collaboration with City & Guilds Kineo, the leading global e-learning services company, the resources bring maths and English learning to life, helping centres to deliver fresh and engaging lessons and ensuring learners receive flexible, tailored and relevant learning.

The resources are designed to support Entry 1 to Level 2, regardless of whether learners are working towards Essential Skills or GCSE.

FOR TUTORS:

- Live community for sharing best practice
- Delivery plans for every sub-topic
- Tutor guides and recommended resources
- Interactive activities complete with guidance sheets
- Audio and visual clips that enhance lesson plans
- Easy access to qualification advisors and consultants

FOR LEARNERS:

- Interactive activities complete with guidance sheets
- Recommended resources to help make learning easier
- e-Learning for computer-based and mobile learning
- Audio and video clips that really bring topics to life
- Quizzes, revision videos and cards add variety and interest
- English revision videos



MATHS &
ENGLISH



KEEPING UP TO DATE



MATHS &
ENGLISH

http://www.cityandguilds.com/ City & Guilds - vocational ...

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help
Convert Select

City & Guilds - vocational... Apprenticeship Standards ... English language GCSE R... https://www.gov.uk/gover... City & Guilds - vocational... 7 Developing the personal... 7a Developing the person... 16 to 19 study programm... 6255 Bookmark City & Guilds - vocational...

THE INSTITUTE OF LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

The Institute of Leadership & Management (ILM) is the UK's largest management body, combining industry-leading qualifications and specialist member services.

Visit www.i-l-m.com >

LEARNER QUICK LINKS

A City & Guilds qualification can be the perfect way to boost your career and reach your potential.

- > Replacement certificates for learners
- > Qualifications explained
- > Apprenticeships
- > Career ideas
- > What we offer learners
- > Help for learners

EMPLOYER QUICK LINKS

City & Guilds Kineo supports businesses with all aspects of skills development and training; improving performance through learning and technology.

- > What we offer employers
- > What we offer public sector employers
- > What we offer the Ministry of Defence
- > Help and support for employers
- > Verify an e-certificate

EXTERNAL QUALITY ASSURERS QUICK LINKS

There are a variety of EQA roles to support and promote quality assurance in centres in line with City & Guilds and regulatory arrangements.

- > External Quality Assurers
- > EQA document library
- > EQA vacancies

City & Guilds responds to MP Tristram Hunt's announcement on increasing basic maths skills in the UK

Read more

Georgina Taylor talks about her experiences in the first month as an apprentice at City & Guilds Kineo

Read more

What advice are parents giving their children about getting a job?

Read more

[VIEW MORE NEWS](#)

Click here for information about events.

Click here to sign up for updates

Tools and Support

Walled Garden SmartScreen Learning Assistant Bookshop e-volve Events My preferences

City & Guilds websites

CITY & GUILDS CENTRE FOR SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

City & Guilds kineo

City & Guilds NPTC

ilm INSTITUTE OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

08:31 04/12/2014

A black and white photograph of a smiling chef in a professional kitchen. The chef is wearing a white chef's hat, a white shirt, and a dark apron with white vertical stripes. They are holding a green vegetable and a knife, appearing to be in the middle of preparing a dish. The background shows stainless steel kitchen equipment and shelves.

THANK YOU