

Objective

To understand the range of qualifications available and to know what level of learning they represent.

Pre-learning

Research several local job adverts and make a list of the different levels of qualifications required by employers for each job. Where would you go to gain these qualifications? Local college, university?

Activity

Divide students into twos or threes. Give each team a set of qualification cards.

Ask students to rank the cards, from lower level qualifications to higher level qualifications.

Ask student to feed back their choices, e.g. highest, lowest and middle.

Collate ideas on board, adjusting or levelling, as necessary

Feed back the correct rank order without distinguishing between academic and vocational qualifications.

Ask students to consider where certain qualifications can be obtained, drawing information from pre-activity exercise, if appropriate.

Draw out the distinction between school/college based education and work-based learning, full-time (NVQ) and work-based learning (Apprenticeships). Emphasise that over 12% of higher education happens at local colleges. Revisit progression diagram from NQF1, if appropriate.

Give out the handout 'Qualifications Framework' and guide students through the reading, highlighting the distinctions between school, work-related and work-based learning. Make the point that colleges provide academic, work-related and work-based opportunities.

Ask teams to review the card exercise, using the Qualifications Framework handout as a guide.

Post-learning / Self study

Research local job adverts and make a tally of the numbers of jobs requiring level 2, 3, 4 & 5 entry qualifications.

Curriculum mapping

Careers Education and Guidance (CEG) National Framework:

Career exploration:

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the options open to them including opportunities provided through vocational options.

Resources

(click link to open)

- **Work sheet NQF2**
[Examples of Qualifications \(cards\)](#)
- **Handout NQF2**
[National Qualifications Framework](#)

Worksheet NQF2

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Title: **Examples of Qualifications (cards)**
Theme: **National Qualifications Framework**

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NVQ 1 (National Vocational Qualifications)	NVQ 2 (National Vocational Qualifications)	NVQ 3 (National Vocational Qualifications)	NVQ 4 (National Vocational Qualifications)	NVQ 5 (National Vocational Qualifications)
GCSE Grade E	GCSE Grade B	Key Skills Level 3	Progression Diploma	PhD (Doctorate)
Foundation Degree	Honours Degree	Intermediate Diplomas of Higher and Further Education	Higher Diploma	Advanced Diploma
Advanced Apprenticeship Framework	Higher National Diploma	Key Skills Level 2	BTEC National Diploma	BTEC First Diploma
Apprenticeship	Masters Degree	Advanced Professional Diploma	Key Skills Level 1	Postgraduate Certificate of Education
A Levels	Applied A Levels	Young Apprenticeship Framework	Foundation Diploma	

Handout NQF2

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Title: **National Qualifications Framework**
Theme: **National Qualifications Framework**

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NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK				
LEVELS	KEY SKILLS and 'Other'	VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS Work-related	ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS Work-based	ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS
Level 8		BTEC Advanced Professional Diploma		Doctorate (PHD)
Level 7		BTEC Advanced Professional Diploma		Masters Degree Postgraduate Certificates and Diplomas
Level 6				Honours Degrees
Level 5		BTEC HND (Higher National Diploma)	NVQ 5 Foundation Degrees	Intermediate Diplomas of Higher Education and Further Education
Level 4		BTEC Professional Diplomas	NVQ 4	
Level 3	Advanced Diploma Progression Diploma Key Skills Level 3	BTEC National Diploma	NVQ 3 Advanced Apprenticeship Framework	A Levels Applied A Levels
Level 2	Higher Diploma Key Skills Level 2	BTEC First Diploma	NVQ 2 Apprenticeship Framework	GCSE Grades A*-C
Level 1	Foundation Diploma Key Skills Level 1		NVQ 1 Young Apprenticeship Framework	GCSE Grades D-G