

Initial Teacher Training reforms

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FE Teaching, Adult Literacy/Numeracy Subject Teaching and Learning & Development Qualifications

Preparing for September 2007 – Initial Teacher Training and Skills for Life Reform

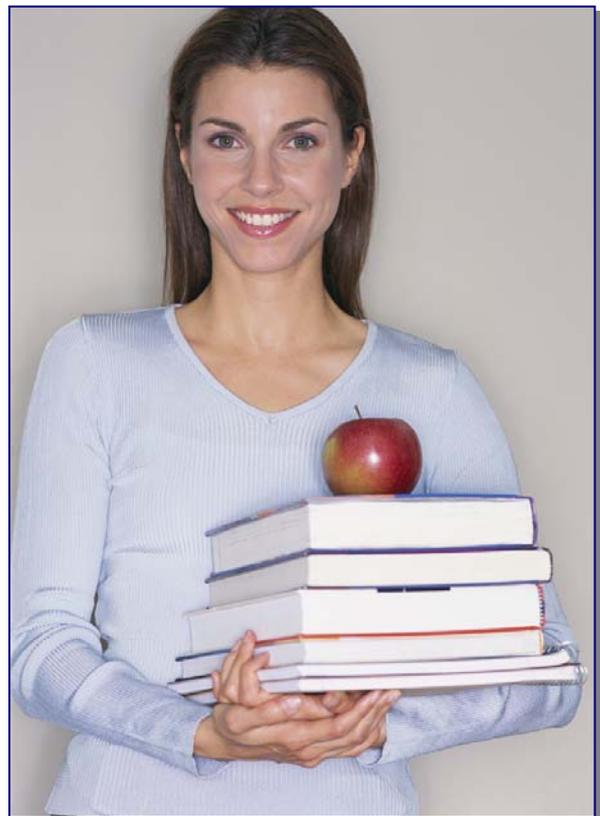
STOP PRESS: Documentation for the OCR Awards and Certificates in Lifelong Learning is now available on the OCR website www.ocr.org.uk

Welcome to the first of five newsletters OCR will be producing to prepare you for changes to Initial Teacher Training qualifications

As OCR highlighted in our last update letter, The DfES published *'Equipping our Teachers for the Future: Reforming Initial Teacher Training for the Learning and Skills Sector'* in 2004. This document set out proposals to contribute to the professionalisation of teachers, tutors and trainers in the lifelong learning sector, through the development of new standards and qualifications to reflect teacher roles.

Lifelong Learning UK (LLUK) was tasked by the DfES to develop a new suite of standards for the existing sector standards – these are now in a 'test & trial' stage and will be in a pilot stage for use by all centres in September 2007. These will replace the existing Teacher Training qualifications.

To help you prepare for delivery of these new qualifications, we would like to confirm the qualifications we will be offering from September 2007:



OCR Level 3 / Level 4 Awards in Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector

OCR Level 3 and 4 Certificates in Teaching in the Lifelong Learning Sector

The following qualifications will be offered from January 2008, although interim guidance will be available from September 2007, to enable centres to begin delivery:

OCR Level 5 Diploma in Teaching in the Lifelong Learning Sector

OCR Level 5 Diploma in Teaching in the Lifelong Learning Sector (English Literacy)

OCR Level 5 Diploma in Teaching in the Lifelong Learning Sector (Maths Numeracy)

Where to find out more

Information on these qualifications is available on the OCR website now. However, as we receive information from LLUK and develop the new qualifications, we will endeavour to update the OCR website on an ongoing basis and make additional documentation available for development purposes.

Thank you for being patient and supportive throughout these key changes to Initial Teacher Training. OCR is working closely with the Sector Skills Council and other regulatory bodies to ensure that qualifications will be available to centres as soon as possible.

To find out more information about LLUK dissemination events and updates, please visit www.lifelonglearninguk.org.

OCR Pilot centre update

The OCR Level 3 Award in Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector is currently being piloted by a small group of centres. So far, feedback has been very positive with candidates identifying that the award gives a good grounding for teaching.

The Award is a threshold licence to teach and so is designed to give future teachers a basic toolkit for teaching. To date, the award has been delivered as a stand alone qualification and so centres have worked hard to cover each topic in great detail. However, as the awards are contextualised within the Certificates and Diplomas it is believed that the Awards will become more of a preparation award, with excellence in teaching being developed through the subsequent qualifications.

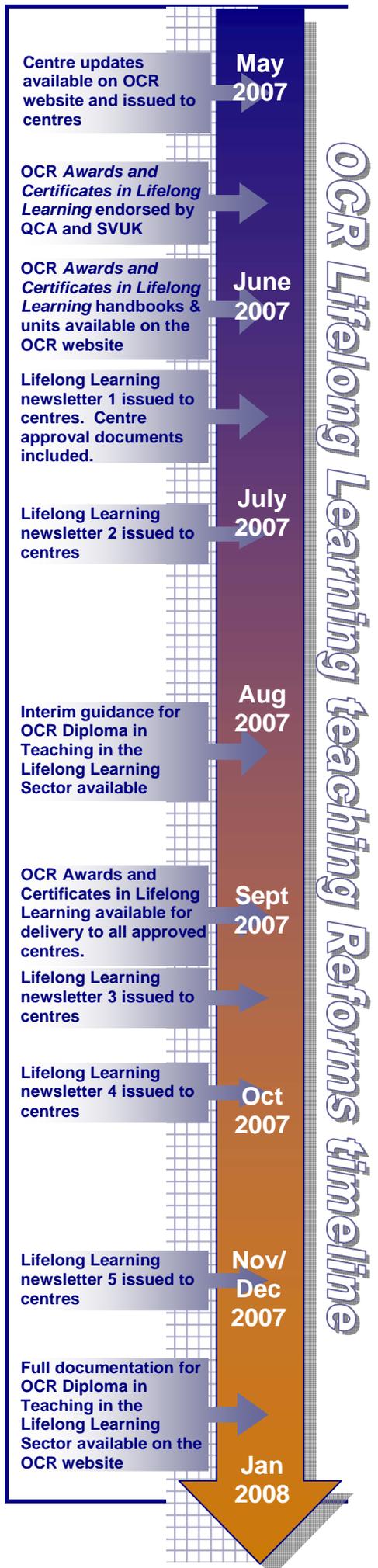
The pilot has been undertaken by a number of different types of centre, from FE Colleges to Work-based Learning providers. Initial feedback is that the new awards work across the whole sector and can be easily adapted to suit different types of delivery programmes.

More detail on the pilot will be available in future newsletters.

LLUK Dissemination events

LLUK are holding a series of dissemination events throughout July that will give delegates an opportunity to hear about recent developments relating to Skills for Life professional development.

Details for these events can be found on the LLUK website (www.lluk.org) but places are limited so please visit the site as soon as possible if you wish to attend.



New teacher role descriptions from September

The lifelong learning sector is diverse, and encompasses both teacher roles and teacher related roles. LLUK has redefined the title 'Teacher', which is now used as a generic term to represent teachers, tutors, trainers, facilitators, instructors, lecturers and practitioners within the sector.

From September 2007 it is no longer the amount of time that someone teaches which determines the qualification(s) necessary to take, but the teaching responsibilities within their role. Therefore, someone who teaches on a regular or more than a very occasional basis will be required to progress to the Associate Teacher or Full Teacher qualifications, depending on the responsibilities she/he undertakes.



The Associate Teacher Role

The Associate Teacher role is defined as carrying fewer teaching responsibilities than the full role. The quality of teaching is expected to be of an equally high standard.

Someone is deemed to be in an associate teacher role if their role and responsibilities are to **teach predominantly** in at least **one** of the following ways:

- from packs/ pre-prepared materials, and therefore has fewer responsibilities in design of curriculum and materials generally
- on a one to one basis
- a programme confined to a particular level/ subject/ type of learner (i.e. does not develop or deliver a full range across a curriculum area)
- short courses

Also deemed an associate teacher would be someone whose main occupation is not teaching, but who does deliver learning on a regular or more than an occasional basis e.g. termly contracts for adult and community learning that do not require the full teaching role.

The Full Teacher Role

All those entering the profession who take on the full responsibilities of a teacher in the sector are performing the full teacher role.

This is performed by someone who teaches:

- using materials they have designed and evaluated
- across a range of levels, subjects and learner types
- across or contributes to a range of programmes of varying lengths

Please note: The role is not defined by the number of hours taught, but by the responsibilities undertaken in the teaching role. This is a programme of learning for new teachers, offered at minimum level five, which leads to and is one element of QTLS status.

For more information on the new definitions of teacher roles, visit the LLUK website (<http://www.lifelonglearninguk.org>), who is the Sector Skills Council for Lifelong Learning.

OCR Learning & Development Qualifications

Changes to the Standards for FE Teaching and Skills for Life qualifications mean that revisions and updates to the Learning and Development qualifications are inevitable. At the moment, information regarding timelines

is not available, but OCR envisages that any proposed changes will not come into effect until at least the end of 2008. More information will be available regarding any changes in future newsletters.

Next OCR newsletter – 12th July 2007

www.ocr.org.uk

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