

Vocational Qualifications (QCF, NVQ, NQF)

Preparing for a Business Venture

Level 2 Award Preparing for a Business Venture – **09896**

Level 2 Certificate Preparing for a Business Venture – **09897**

Level 3 Award Preparing for a Business Venture – **09898**

Level 3 Certificate Preparing for a Business Venture – **09899**

OCR Report to Centres September 2017

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This report on the examination provides information on the performance of candidates which it is hoped will be useful to teachers in their preparation of candidates for future examinations. It is intended to be constructive and informative and to promote better understanding of the specification content, of the operation of the scheme of assessment and of the application of assessment criteria.

Reports should be read in conjunction with the published question papers and mark schemes for the examination.

OCR will not enter into any discussion or correspondence in connection with this report.

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1 Overview

The popularity of this qualification has been maintained and indeed increased. It has been good to see that in general the standard of work has improved with the vast majority of centres now both taking due note of the command word and of the instructions for individual tasks.

A number of centres have not always taken sufficient care when packaging the work to be sent to the external moderator which has caused that person considerable problems and often delays for the centre. In particular, a cover sheet must accompany each candidates work while a print out from Interchange showing the claim number should also be included.

2 General Comments

09897 continues to be by far the most popular of the various levels offered under this qualification. In general, these candidates have been correctly entered and this has increased this year. While the great majority of centres are now producing correct work, with some producing a very high standard, there are still a few where inadequate checking is taking place prior to submission.

09898 and 09899 have both seen a decline in entries to the point where the decision has been made to not offer them. This decline seems to be possibly associated with a change in educational provision within centres.

09896 now seems to be largely used by centres where a candidate is likely to leave before completing sufficient units for 09897.

3 Comments on Individual Units

09896/09897: Unit 1 – this is clearly the first unit that most candidates do. This does not mean that the standard should be different from that of later units. In particular, the command word 'explain' must be correctly addressed. IT is good to see that the majority do so.

09897 Unit 4 – this continues to cause problems for some centres especially Task 2.2 with formal and informal interviews. The differences concern the structure and the order of questions and not the location of the interview. In addition Task 5.2 requires actual figures and not a formula.

09897 Unit 5 – Task 3: while it is good to see that most centres now ensure that their candidates give a good range of legislation with full descriptions there are a few who only offer three or four pieces of legislation and/or where the descriptions are really only statements. Neither are likely to help candidates prepare themselves for business.

09897 Unit 8 – it has been good to see that nearly all centres have now taken on board the need to use the same sections of the business plan in both Tasks 3 and 5.

4 Sector Update

Government policy on getting people into work is still a positive factor in terms of these qualifications.

The government continues to emphasise the importance of educating prisoners to prepare them for the world of work which would dovetail very well with this qualification.

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