



T LEVELS RECAP AND REFRESHER WEBINAR

February 2024



TL

WELCOME

TIME	ITEM	LEAD
10:00	Welcome and introductions, explanation of meeting purpose. Will include a reminder of how and why T Levels differ from other VTQs.	Dominic McDonagh – T Level Provider Readiness
10:05	Brief recap of policy changes over the last year – and how our support for providers is evolving to take account of learning from the last two years.	Dominic McDonagh – T Level Provider Readiness
10:15	Industry placements – basics, different models and support available	Andrea Kay – Industry Placements Team
10:30	Q&A	All
10:40	Results and certification – what providers need to know now	Kirsty Taylor and David Scott – Corporate and Digital Team
10:50	Progression from T Levels – HE / Apprenticeships / HTQs	Lauren Hutchinson – T Level Development Team
11:05	Curriculum support tips and provider support	Clare Appleby (ETF) and Stephanie Crane (AoC)
11:35	Ofsted inspections on T Levels	Kate Hill (Ofsted)
12:00	Q&A	All
12:15	Close	Dom McDonagh

T Level Rollout

- Over **250 colleges and providers** across all regions of the country now offer T Levels.
- **18 T Levels** are now available. T Levels in Media, Broadcast and Production, Animal Care, and Craft & Design will launch in September this year. We are no longer introducing a combined Hair, Barbering and Beauty Therapy T Level.
- Last year saw the second cohort of students complete their courses with a fantastic **pass rate of 90.5%**.
- By the end of last academic year **over 16,000 students** had studied all or part of a T Level since 2020.
- Feedback from students continues to suggest that they particularly enjoy the practical elements of T Levels, and the opportunity to engage with employers from the sectors they were interested in.



T Level implementation: challenges

Transitioning to new qualifications - different assessment methods and greater number of teaching hours in the curriculum

- We are engaging with College and School leaders and experts to look at assessment and content across T Levels. We will use this, and emerging evidence on student attainment and progression, to consider any improvements to T Levels.

Issues with the first year Health and Science T Level core exams in 2022

- These were exam errors specific to these T Levels. We have since worked with Ofqual and the AOs to ensure they do not happen again

Communications

- Challenge in reaching schools to ensure teachers and careers staff and parents know about and understand the value of T Levels. Evidence shows that awareness is increasing but there remains a gap in understanding.

Industry placements

- Driving up awareness and understanding of T Levels with employers and ensuring providers take advantage of support to secure placements.
- Many employers are embracing T Levels, for example Lloyds Bank are not only hosting industry placements, but in some cases hiring students as apprentices and full time employees.

T Level implementation: Feedback

Ofsted Thematic Review – Provider Recommendations

Close and collaborative **working with employers** to ensure that industry placements meet learning aims

Students receive accurate information about T levels before they enrol so they can make informed choices

Teachers are **trained in the most effective methods for teaching the theoretical content** of T levels

Assess students' starting points and use this information to ensure they are supported to develop knowledge and skills.

Set the curriculum and teaching to match students' starting points

Students on the **TLFY benefit from a high-quality work placement** that fits the learning aims of their course

Collaborate with other providers to share resources and best practice RE curriculums, teaching, and the assessment

We continue to provide extensive support for providers to meet these challenges



Capital funding of over £450m to ensure that students can access high quality facilities and industry standard equipment.



The **T Level Professional Development programme** offers free support to help teachers, support staff, and leaders to prepare for T Level delivery.



Per pupil funding for T Levels to support industry placements and additional hours, and for AY 23/24 an **additional 10% per pupil funding boost for T Levels**



Industry Placement support including the Connect service to help match providers to employers, and an employer support fund for AY 23/24.



We have **contracted the AoC to deliver Provider support** including mentoring, networking, and buddying opportunities, and events.



A new 'It All Starts with Skills' **communications campaign** with significant T Level spotlighting, as well as grants this year to support providers promote T Levels locally.

We are further developing the T Level Foundation Year

- **High-quality route onto T Levels** – a new type of Level 2 study programme targeted to those who would benefit from the additional study time, before they start their T Level - to get T Level ready.
- **T Level Foundation Year name change** – to signal that this is the first step on a 3-year path to achieving a T Level, for those who need it.
- **Phased roll out** from 2020 alongside T Levels, by a subset of c30 T Level providers - this year 2023/24 c100 providers delivering... and further increases expected year on year.
- **Strengthened programme** by:
 - [Framework for Delivery](#) - to ensure consistency while retaining some provider flexibility
 - [National Technical Outcomes \(NTOs\)](#) - for each of the 12 T Level routes
- **Funding new T Level Foundation Qualifications** based on the NTOs, as part of the Department's level 2 qualifications review - TLFQs will be approved for first teach from 2026.
- **Research** by NFER showed what has worked well:
 - Close working on curriculum design
 - More extensive diagnostics than usual practice
 - Using a smaller qualification, or non-qualification approach
 - Allowing more time for English and maths
 - Project-based work, particularly with employer involvement
 - A variety of assessment methods to assess students' progress
- **Delivery support programme** partners Association of Colleges (AoC) offer providers a comprehensive package of support, CPD/training and events – [Events and support brochure](#) hotline number **0207 0342612** or via email tlevelsupport@aoc.co.uk

Upcoming developments this year

T Level Communications

- The new 'It All Starts With Skills' campaign launched in January.
- T Level Thursday as part of National Apprenticeship Week, next week (8th Feb), please get involved and share your student stories (#TLevelThursday)
- The third T Levels Week planned for October, date tbc
- We will publish the 2023/4 Action Plan in Spring, with updated student data

Capital funding

- This March we will be allocating funding for specialist equipment for providers starting delivery of a route for the first time in September 2024.

Introduction of further T Levels in 2024

- Media, Broadcast and Production, Craft and Design, and Animal Care.

Continuation of our reforms at level 3

- This week we published the provisional list of qualifications that have been assessed to overlap with Wave 4 T Levels (Agriculture, Land Management and Production; Animal Care and Management; Craft and Design; Legal Services; and Media, Broadcast and Production). Subject to an appeal process we will withdraw 16-19 public funding for new starts on these qualifications from 1 August 2025.