



Department
for Education

[Link to the 66 new
approved
qualifications for
first teach 2025](#)

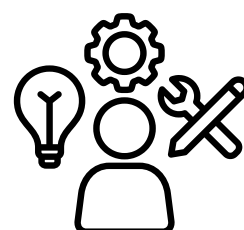
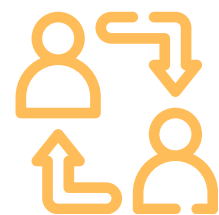
Level 2

New, reformed qualifications

Qualifications at level 2 and below are a vital part of our further education landscape – not just for their value to the economy but also for their potential to improve social mobility, inclusion, and lifelong learning.

- **Diverse Cohort:** Learners at level 2 have varied backgrounds, prior achievements, needs, aspirations, and motivations and are more likely to come from disadvantaged backgrounds or have special educational needs or disabilities.
- **High-Quality Education:** It is crucial that learners at level 2 have access to high-quality education that supports their needs and helps them unlock their potential.
- **Progression Opportunities:** Level 2 pathways should offer excellent progression opportunities, including level 3 study programmes (like T Levels), skilled work, or a level 3 Apprenticeship.

There are 66 newly reformed qualifications at level 2



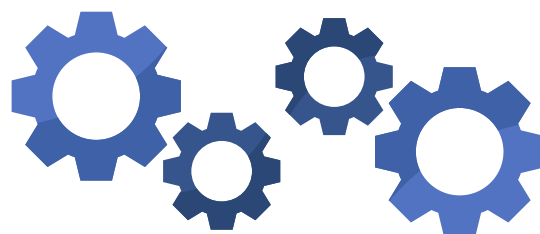
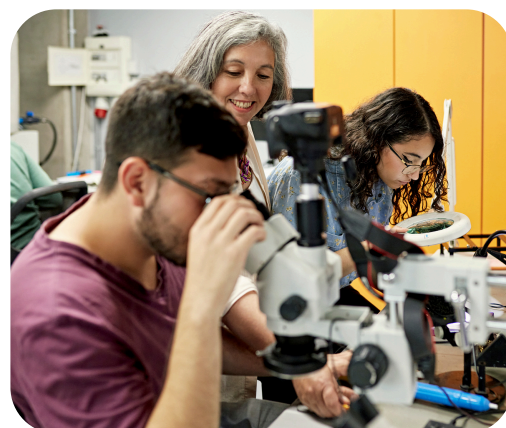
Level 2 Technical Occupational Entry Qualifications

At level 2 there are two types of occupational entry qualifications:

- Occupational entry qualifications are aligned to the occupational standard at level 2 and support progression to employment in a given route.
- Extended occupational entry qualifications are slightly larger. They will include the same technical content as the smaller occupational entry qualifications, but will also include additional introductory sector knowledge, to support wider contextual understanding of the route, and transferable employability skills. These will be available to 16–19 and adult learners and will include the word “Extended” in the qualification title.

Level 2 Technical specialist qualifications

A technical specialist qualification is another type of technical qualification. It allows a learner to develop additional knowledge and competencies and specialise within a sector. These qualifications will build on knowledge covered by another occupational entry qualification.



Q&A

What will happen to existing level 2 qualifications into 2025–2026?

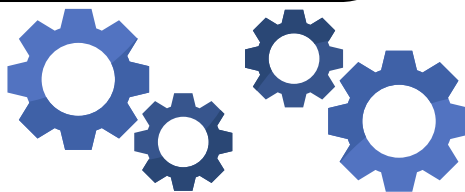
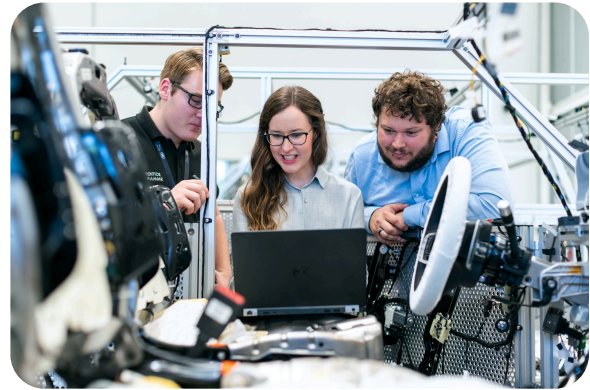
The only qualifications at level 2 that will have funding approval removed in 2025–26 are those which an awarding organisation has told us will be directly replaced by one of the reformed technical qualifications.

What is happening at level 2 and below in the reform programme?

We understand that a high-quality offer at level 2 and below is particularly important. The new technical qualifications at level 2 will support those who want to enter key level 2 occupations. Future decisions on level 2 and below qualifications reform will be taken, considering the Curriculum and Assessment Review.

Where can I find more information on the new level 2 qualifications?

Awarding organisations will publish information on the new qualifications on their websites. We encourage you to contact awarding organisations directly if you have any questions about their qualifications.



AVAILABLE IN:

- CONSTRUCTION AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT
- EDUCATION AND EARLY YEARS
- ENGINEERING AND MANUFACTURING
- HEALTH AND SCIENCE

Progression

Learners could progress from the new level 2 qualifications on to a level 3 study programme, such as a T Level. They could also progress into skilled work or a level 3 Apprenticeship.