



CCEA Level 1 Award in Occupational Studies

CCEA Level 2 Award in Occupational Studies

January Series 2017

## Principal Moderator's Report

occupational  
studies  
*Construction*



## Foreword

This booklet outlines the performance of candidates in all aspects of CCEA's Level 1 and Level 2 Qualifications in Occupational Studies - Construction for this series.

CCEA hopes that the Chief Examiner's and/or Principal Moderator's report(s) will be viewed as a helpful and constructive medium to further support teachers and the learning process.

This booklet forms part of the suite of support materials for the specification. Further materials are available from the specification's microsite on our website at [www.ccea.org.uk](http://www.ccea.org.uk).



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# LEVEL 1 AND 2 QUALIFICATIONS IN OCCUPATIONAL STUDIES - CONSTRUCTION

## Principal Moderator's Report

### Introduction

All moderators reported that they observed improving practice in the delivery of units within the Construction pathway this series. The quality of candidate evidence presented was, in general, of a high standard. A wide variety of teaching activities and assessment methods were observed resulting in high candidate outcomes being achieved by the majority of candidates. Where photographic evidence was used this showed, in the majority of cases, candidates performing realistic working activities. In most centres the photographs were well annotated by the candidate, identifying the processes involved.

### Bench Joinery VYFA and (Carpentry and Joinery) VYFC

Both units generally used the same exemplar booklet from the CCEA microsite, but it would be advisable if the centres changed or adapted the questions in the booklets to make them specific to different specifications and occupational pathways. More detailed exemplar material has been produced by CCEA recently and this should be consulted and worksheets amended as necessary.

The practical outcomes and final products that were shown in the photographic evidence showed a good level of skills from the candidates. It is important that the candidates wear PPE for all practical activities and this must be shown in the photographs submitted with the portfolio as evidence for AO2.

The marking for both units was lenient in AO1 and AO3 in all of the portfolios submitted for moderation.

**AO1** The area that needs to be addressed in all centres is AO1. The worksheets need more stretch and challenge questions, especially in the areas of Health and Safety and Environmental Issues as some candidates are gaining full marks for very basic responses. The careers section requires research for 3 careers which includes information on the qualifications needed or available through a course at a local FE college, as well as the salary and conditions in that profession.

**AO2** All of the centres also need to include more teacher/lecturer annotation in AO2 to show where and why the marks have been awarded. The pictorial evidence could be improved by the inclusion of close up photographs of the joints.

**AO3** More evaluative responses are required to obtain the higher marks, and in most instances evaluations were simply descriptions of what the candidate had done rather than giving suggestions of how they could have improved their final product or how they could use the skills they have learnt.

### Brickwork VYFB

Overall the brickwork/blockwork centres are accurately delivering the specification. There was evidence in most centres that Internal Standardisation did take place, however not all of it was effective. A suitable range of topics were used by the centres. In some cases the standard of marking was somewhat lenient by comparison to standards as set out in the specification. Reports need to be more concise. Additional photographic evidence would help to show progression of the candidates' work. Evaluations were marked leniently. However, care should be taken to ensure the marks awarded for the evaluations reflect the work that the learner has completed.

## Hard landscaping VYFD

Generally the marking was consistent throughout all the samples moderated. However, it would be good practice if tutors standardised their portfolios in terms of dividing portfolios into three separate sections. Candidates demonstrated good practical skills across a range of areas within their portfolios.

- AO1** Candidates demonstrated an overall awareness of the specification area. Evidence is satisfactory but could have been underpinned through candidates reflecting and developing on career pathways in their specific occupational areas. Candidates could have further expanded upon the Health and Safety at Work Order within their portfolios.
- AO2** Candidates' project work has been supported by the tutors, with good evidence contained within their portfolios. However it would be good practice for the IV to check on signatures etc. before sending portfolios to be moderated. Additional photographic evidence would also help support the learners progress throughout this unit. Centres should provide well annotated working drawings for each specific task to evidence work on the project and the standards required. Witness statements support the learners throughout their programme which is good practice.
- AO3** Evaluations are generally limited, but a recommendation could be to introduce open ended questions thus allowing the learners to reflect on their programme with a holistic approach. Teachers/lecturers should encourage candidates to identify the strengths and weaknesses of all aspects of the activities undertaken.

## Tiling VYFH

No centres entered for Tiling in this January series.

## Plumbing VYFG

No centres entered for Plumbing in this January series.

## Plastering VYFF

No centres entered for Plastering in this January series.

## Contact details

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