



CCEA Level 1 Award in Occupational Studies  
CCEA Level 2 Award in Occupational Studies

Summer Series 2019

## Principal Moderator's Report

occupational  
studies  
*Design and Creativity*



## Foreword

This booklet outlines the performance of candidates in all aspects of this specification for the Summer 2019 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 - DESIGN AND CREATIVITY

## Principal Moderator's Report

### General Introduction (All six Occupational Studies pathways)

The summer 2019 series saw the introduction of E- Moderation for all centres. This transformation from a paper based system to an electronic system went very smoothly for both the teaching centres and the moderation team.

The number of cash-ins for the summer 2019 series has increased 11.1% to 8941 cash-ins. The total number of units entered has increased by 9.6% to 17325 units. The number of adjustments has decreased from 84 in summer 2018 to 61 in summer 2019. One further centre had an adjustment to moderator's mark. Some centres need to include more stretch and challenge assessment opportunities in order to give their candidates access to the higher mark bands within the AO1 criteria. Centres must clearly align AO2 practical tasks with all the assessment criteria found in each unit specification. If centres are found not to have covered some part of the assessment criteria their marks will be adjusted accordingly.

### Design and Creativity

The Design and Creativity pathway was a large number of candidates with centres which range from Schools both Grammar and Secondary, FE Colleges and Training Centres with the majority coming from within the School sector.

The variety of units offered was wide including Patisserie and Baking, Contemporary Cuisine, Creative Styling using Blow Drying techniques, Creative Hair Styling on long hair, Creative Hair Styling Setting Techniques, Total Beauty, Graphic Design, Interior Design, Textile and Fashion Design, Specialised Crafts, Enterprise Crafts and Website Development. Hair and Beauty and Hospitality and Catering pathways made up the majority of the subjects chosen. This year there was a noticeable increase in the number of candidates entering for the Contemporary Cuisine, Patisserie, Graphic Design, Hairstyling Long Hair, Specialised Crafts and Website Development.

Overall this year the numbers achieving Level 1 was similar to last year with a slight increase in the numbers achieving Level 2. In the majority of centres a clear marking system was evident for AO1, AO2 and AO3. It was easy to track the origin of the mark which was clearly indicated at front of the portfolios using the CCEA devised grid. Evaluations have improved slightly from previously, although there is still evidence of lenient marking for AO3 in a number of centres. It was noted that the number of negative adjustments has slightly decreased from last year. In a number of large Further Education centres Internal Standardisation has been carried out successfully where a number of units were offered within the Pathway. Attendance at agreement trials is highly recommended and a wide variety of exemplar material is now available for most units. Centres are also encouraged to submit materials for the free Portfolio clinics which are usually held twice per year in the autumn and spring terms, as these provide good guidance on portfolio compilation.

Design and Creativity made up 22.2% of the overall candidature.

The senior moderation team carried out a number of random spot checks on centres as part of the moderation process. This process highlighted that most centres were marking within the tolerance of the specification although marks were adjusted in a minority of centres.

To foster vocational skills, Occupational Studies allows learners to learn for work, through

work and about work. This hands-on approach is ideal for those who prefer to develop their skills in a more practical, occupational environment.

Occupational Studies continued to be very popular with learners undertaking two units from any of the six single award pathways.

- Design and Creativity
- Technology and Innovation
- Construction
- Business Services
- Environment and Society
- Engineering and Engineering Services

There are still general issues in some units which include:

- Evidence is required of annotated photographs for AO2,
- Better teacher mark grids that show where and why marks have been awarded in AO1, AO2 and AO3, and
- Front cover sheets detailing the name of the unit and the candidates' details were not included in a few centres.

### **Internal Standardisation**

In most centres there was evidence of cross moderation but this was not always the case. This is a continuous process with teachers/lecturers reviewing work carried throughout the year to allow for consistency and reliability of outcomes.

### **Contemporary Cuisine**

Generally the learners provided good evidence of Health and Safety issues and in particular safe working practices in a working environment were well understood. Environmental issues, local careers opportunities and knowledge of materials for each section were well covered in a majority of centres. However, in some instances the questions in relation to careers were too simplistic, with learners being asked to list three careers instead of researching these in detail. In some centres evidence of site visits to professional catering establishments were highlighted and this supported their understanding of career opportunities in the Hospitality Industry. As in previous moderations there is scope for more stretch and challenge questions in order to differentiate between the higher levels of learner. The learners provided a good range of suitable tasks as per specification requirements; however a small minority of centres did not clearly show transparent marking grids for AO2 to support marks awarded for each task assessed. The photographic evidence provided was generally good and it is recommended that several colour photographs are used as this will reflect both the quality and creative flair of the methods and processes carried out. It is also recommended that centres show various stages of the preparation and cooking process, and it is best practice to show photographs of the candidates together with the final product produced. It is very important that each photograph related to the actual work of the learner and a standard photograph must not be used as this could be considered malpractice. Evaluations were satisfactory and in some cases high marks were awarded for work which was not analytical or reflective in nature.

## **Creative Hair Styling on Long Hair**

The number of candidates taking this unit was up slightly on last year's figures. Generally there was good coverage of Health and Safety, Careers and Materials/Knowledge. For AO2 there was generally good use of photographic evidence of the practical activities involved. The use of individual marking sheets for each stage of the practical work helped to facilitate the moderation process. Good student annotation was present on most portfolios moderated.

AO3 – In a minority of centres candidate evaluations were marked leniently, candidates should be encouraged to present detailed and well-reasoned evaluations outlining their strengths and weaknesses and areas to be improved. Internal standardisation was carried out in most centres.

## **Creative Styling using Blow Drying Techniques**

As in the previous unit the numbers were down slightly from the previous year. Satisfactory opportunities were provided for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 as it applies to this occupational area. Opportunities were provided for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of three career options in this occupational area. In most centres good opportunities were provided for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the environmental issues related to this occupational area. The questions relating to the materials and skills required provided candidates with opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding. In most centres the questions provided stretch and challenge to candidates. Generally the practical assessment tasks undertaken were relevant and met the specification requirements. The Tutors provided well annotated observation records to justify the marks awarded for the practical tasks.

There was good photographic evidence clearly demonstrating the various stages in the practical task(s) undertaken. This helped facilitate the moderating process. The evaluations presented by the candidates were of a satisfactory standard and most were accurately marked. In the best centres they were detailed, well-reasoned and identified the candidates' strengths and weaknesses and made suggestions for improvement.

## **Creative Hair Styling Setting Techniques**

This unit was taken by a small number of candidates in four centres. Satisfactory opportunities were provided for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 as it applies to this occupational area. Opportunities were provided for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of three career options in this occupational area. The questions relating to the materials and skills required in this occupational area provided candidates with opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding. There was good photographic evidence clearly demonstrating the various stages in the practical task(s) undertaken. This helped facilitate the moderating process. Evaluations were satisfactory and in most cases marks were not adjusted.

## **Enterprise Crafts**

This was taken by a similar number of centres as last year. Good opportunities were provided for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 as it applies to this occupational area. Good opportunities were provided for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of three career options for Enterprise Crafts. In general good opportunities were provided for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the environmental issues



related to Enterprise Crafts. The questions relating to the materials and skills required for Enterprise Crafts provided candidates with very good opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding. The practical assessment tasks undertaken were relevant and met the specification requirements. The teachers provided well annotated observation records to justify the marks awarded for the practical tasks. There was good photographic evidence clearly demonstrating the various stages in the practical task(s) undertaken. This helped facilitate the moderating process. The evaluations presented by the candidates were of a good standard and were accurately marked.

## **Graphic Design**

This unit was taken by significant number of centres this year with a marked increase on last year's numbers. Generally the sample of work submitted ranged from satisfactory to excellent. The marking was consistent and in line with standards set out in specification. The students produced portfolios which included information relating to Health and Safety and the environment however additional information regarding career opportunities needs to be explored.

A02 - Portfolios were well presented. The sample of work submitted was of a good standard and covered a range of student interests.

A03 - Evaluations were included but in the majority of instances these need to be more reflective and analytical in order to achieve higher level marks.

## **Interior Design**

This unit was undertaken by a minority of learners and some good work was produced. A01 - Health and Safety and Environmental issues although addressed needs some additional stretch and challenge in order to enable candidates to attain higher marks. There was good coverage of the theoretical aspects across all centres.

Good opportunities were provided for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of three career options in this occupational area.

A02 - The practical assessment tasks undertaken were excellent allowing candidates to demonstrate all the specification requirements. One centre provided a realistic model of a bedroom which contained both wall and floor coverings and bedding.

There was good photographic evidence clearly demonstrating the practical task(s) undertaken. Some excellent student work presented in the centres and it was clear that they enjoyed the unit

A03 - Evaluations were included and marked appropriately.

The marking was consistent and in line with standards set out in specification.

## **Patisserie and Baking**

The numbers taking this unit increased considerably from last year. The sample of work submitted ranged from good to an excellent standard. In general evidence for A01 was provided in the form of written answers on each of the main topic areas. The photographic evidence provided was generally good and it is recommended that colour photographs are used as this will reflect both the quality and creative flair of the methods and processes carried out. It is also recommended that centres show various stages of the preparation and baking process and it is best practice to show photographs of the candidates together with the final product produced. It is very important that each photograph related to the actual work of the learner and a standard photograph must not be used as this could be considered malpractice. Marking schemes were adhered to and easy to follow in most centres.

Generally the marking was consistent with the requirements of the specification. Diaries were completed and some included evaluative comment which can be used as evidence for AO3 if the centre makes this clear in the final allocation of marks.

AO3 - The evaluations presented by the candidates at end of sections and end of unit were generally of a good standard and most were appropriately marked. However in some instances high marks were awarded for final evaluations which were not analytical or reflective

## **Specialised Crafts**

The number of candidates taking this unit has been maintained in similar numbers as last year.

AO1 - This section was well structured and provided satisfactory opportunities for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 as it applies to this occupational area. Satisfactory opportunities were provided for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the environmental issues related to this occupational area. Both of these areas could be further developed to allow for stretch and challenge and differentiation between learners. Environmental issues could also be tailored more towards the craft area. Basic opportunities were provided for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of three career options in this occupational area. In one centre candidates were requested to research two careers but the specification requires candidates to discuss three career pathways. The questions relating to the materials and skills required in this occupational area provided candidates with basic opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding.

In some centres there was good photographic evidence clearly demonstrating the production and end products in the practical task(s) undertaken. This helped facilitate the moderating process. Please ensure that all photographs are authenticated by both the tutor and the candidate. Generally the practical assessment tasks undertaken were excellent allowing candidates to demonstrate all the specification requirements. This allowed the candidates to demonstrate their creative skills and the final products were very colourful.

AO3 - The task and final evaluations presented by the candidates were usually of a good standard and were well structured. It was clear that candidates enjoyed this unit.

## **Textile and Fashion Design**

The limited number of centres that entered candidates for this unit provided satisfactory evidence covering the three sections. Basic opportunities were provided for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of three career options in this occupational area. Generally the practical assessment tasks undertaken were of a good standard allowing candidates to demonstrate all the specification requirements. This allowed the candidates to demonstrate their creative skills and candidates appear to have enjoyed the unit.

## **Total Beauty**

Numbers taking this unit showed a decreased uptake from last year. The learners who undertook this unit generally produced good quality evidence which met the requirement of the specification. Generally there was good coverage of Health and Safety, Careers and Materials/Knowledge. For AO2 there was generally good use of photographic evidence of the practical activities involved. The use of individual marking sheets for each stage of the practical work helped to facilitate the moderation process. In particular it is recommended that specific clear evidence is provided for client consultation and also aftercare advice to support the mark awarded. Good student annotation was present on most portfolios moderated.

It is recommended that good quality colour photographs are used as it is difficult to check the quality of the final outcome from black and white photographs. AO3 - In a minority of centres candidate evaluations were marked leniently, candidates should be encouraged to present detailed and well-reasoned evaluations outlining their strengths and weaknesses and areas to be improved. Internal standardisation was carried out in most centres but this needs to be more clearly evidenced by the use of appropriate documentation.

## **Website Development**

There was a significant increase in numbers taking this unit from last year. In the majority of centres there was excellent summative and formative feedback to support the marks awarded. The evidence was generally very well presented.

AO1 - Health and Safety and Environmental issues although addressed needs some additional stretch and challenge in order to enable candidates to attain higher marks.

Good opportunities were provided for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of three career options in this occupational area. A detailed explanation of HTML coding was shown in many of the portfolios.

AO2 - In general the practical assessment tasks undertaken were excellent allowing candidates to demonstrate all the specification requirements.

There was good use of screen prints which clearly demonstrated the practical task(s) undertaken. In some centres the fully functioning website was submitted on a disc/pen drive and this greatly facilitated the moderating process.

Good teacher annotation was used throughout the portfolios moderated.

## Contact details

The following information provides contact details for key staff members:

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