

The challenge of an uncertain qualifications landscape

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What can we see in the landscape?

- ☐ Skills for Life
- ☐ Functional Skills
- ☐ Key Skills
- ☐ GCSE Maths and English
- ☐ ESOL
- ☐ Other 'stepping stone' and target qualifications

What is shaping the landscape?

- ☐ BIS review of Literacy and Numeracy
- ☐ DfE implementation of the Wolf Review
- ☐ Apprenticeships
- ☐ Foundation Learning
- ☐ UKBA regulation

BIS Literacy and Numeracy Review

- ☐ Part of the Skills for Growth strategy
- ☐ Not clear what qualifications are in scope
- ☐ FAB/JCQ have queried what are we trying to achieve
- ☐ Qualifications need to meet needs of different learners
- ☐ Application or functionality a design feature

Implementation of Wolf Report

- ☐ GCSE Maths and English as a requirement?
- ☐ Some scope for Level 2 Maths and English qualifications
- ☐ The driver of the performance tables
- ☐ Shaping of 16 – 19 programme
- ☐ The future of Foundation Learning

Apprenticeships

- ☐ Key Skills retained but only until September 2012
- ☐ Will Functional Skills ever meet employers' needs?
- ☐ What will 16 – 19 apprenticeships look like?
- ☐ And what about Higher Level apprenticeships?
- ☐ And Pre- or Access to Apprenticeship programmes?

Foundation Learning

- ☐ Is it going to survive?
- ☐ DfE looking at current practice
- ☐ Anticipate proposals in the autumn
- ☐ Future of funding for adult provision uncertain

UKBA and ESOL

- ☐ Restriction on student immigration now in place
- ☐ Major limitations on Citizenship route
- ☐ Introduction of new 'educational oversight bodies'
- ☐ Independent Schools Inspectorate having oversight of QCF/NQF and ESOL providers

So is there any certainty?

- ☐ GCSE Maths and English a key measure at Key Stage 4 and probably 16 - 19
- ☐ Functional Skills here to stay
- ☐ Working on the assumption that they will replace Key Skills and Skills for Life
- ☐ What role for other 'stepping stone' qualifications and Level 2 equivalents?
- ☐ What is the future for ESOL provision?