

Vocational Qualifications (QCF, NVQ, NQF)

Understanding Business Enterprise

Level 1 Award Understanding Business Enterprise – **10315**

Level 2 Award Understanding Business Enterprise – **10316**

Level 3 Award Understanding Business Enterprise – **10317**

OCR Report to Centres September 2016

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This report on the examination provides information on the performance of candidates which it is hoped will be useful to teachers in their preparation of candidates for future examinations. It is intended to be constructive and informative and to promote better understanding of the specification content, of the operation of the scheme of assessment and of the application of assessment criteria.

Reports should be read in conjunction with the published question papers and mark schemes for the examination.

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1 Overview

The numbers offering this suite of qualifications has declined this year even though it is the only one out of three similar ones which provides a Level 1 qualification.

The centres which have offered candidates have very largely paid close attention to the requirements of the schemes resulting in some good quality work.

2 General Comments

10315 has been the most popular of the qualifications probably because it offers candidates who find academic work more challenging the opportunity to both obtain a qualification and also to possibly prepare themselves to go on to Level 2. Overall the standard of work has been high especially where it is clear that an IVQ has been used to check the work and to send it back for revision and/or addition if necessary.

10316 has, also, seen an improved standard of work for the same reason as above. Centres are encouraged to use this system because it saves the work being rejected and candidates being disappointed.

10317 has seen a very disappointing entry this year. It seems that the extra time needed for candidates to complete the course has deterred centres from entering candidates.

3 Comments on Individual Units

10315 Unit 4 – it has been pleasing to see that centres/candidates now understand exactly what is meant by a 'deal'.

Unit 6 – whilst most candidates complete Task 4 correctly there are still some who do not use the laws and plans as specified i.e. from Tasks 1 and 3. Others do this correctly, but then the 'describe how it will affect your plans' is very sketchy. Candidates should be encouraged to think this through carefully before committing words to paper.

Unit 7 is generally unpopular, but the few examples which have been seen all have been of a high standard.

10316 Unit 11 has seen some very good work this year. The main problem has been that some candidates have been offering answers to Task 5.2 which are far too brief.

Unit 12 has also seen some good work, but few candidates appear to think about the preparation needed for a successful outcome to negotiations before the face to face work starts.

Unit 15 has been a popular choice for many candidates with generally a high standard of work ensuing, but centres are requested to look carefully at Task 4 and the number of words required.

4 Sector Update

Government policy on getting people into work is still a positive factor in terms of these qualifications.

The government continues to emphasise the importance of educating prisoners to prepare them for the world of work which would dovetail very well with this qualification.

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