

INCLUDED ON THE
2022-2023 PERFORMANCE TABLES

LEVEL 1 / LEVEL 2

CAMBRIDGE NATIONALS

Cambridge
NATIONALS

Full time vocational courses for 14-16 years olds





We're a not-for-profit organisation. For us, success is measured through the impact and reach of our activities and the scale of our contribution in helping students realise their aspirations.

Our purpose is to work in partnership with others to provide general and vocational qualifications that support education in ways that enable students to reach their full potential, and equip them with the knowledge and skills they need for their future. We develop our qualifications in close consultation with teachers, industry leaders and government to ensure they are relevant for today's students and meet quality requirements set by the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual) and the DfE.

We believe vocational education isn't just about the results...

It's about developing behaviours and attributes to progress and succeed in the future. We offer a complete suite of vocational qualifications that offers students alternative pathways to support their future study and career choices. These include our exciting Cambridge Nationals designed to meet the needs of students from 14-16 yrs and offer an alternative to an equivalent BTEC.



Spotlight on Cambridge Nationals

Our Cambridge Nationals are Key Stage 4 qualifications designed specifically for students aged 14-16 yrs. They are designed to complement GCSEs by providing students with access to broad vocational sectors. As you might expect from vocational qualifications, as well as an exam, students also complete practical tasks as part of the assessment. Assessment opportunities are available across the course.

Cambridge Nationals have clear progression routes to A levels, Apprenticeships or further advanced vocational qualifications at Level 3, such as our Cambridge Technicals.

The qualifications are graded from level 1 to level 2; level 1 is comparable to GCSE grades 1-3 (or D-G) and level 2 GCSE grades 4-9 (or A*-C).

Cambridge Nationals are available in a range of engaging subjects that are equivalent in size and value to GCSEs. All subjects are recognised on the 2022–2023 Performance Tables.

- **Child Development**
- **Creative iMedia**
- **Information Technologies**
- **Engineering Design/Engineering Manufacture/Principles in Engineering/Systems Control in Engineering**
- **Enterprise and Marketing**
- **Health and Social Care**
- **Sport Science/Sport Studies**



Admin made easy

We know you want time to teach and not form filling so you'll find the administration for Cambridge Nationals really straightforward.

We only ask you for key documents

1. Collect evidence for each candidate via an OCR supplied assignment, make sure it's complete and can be easily viewed by the Moderator.
2. Assess the evidence and complete the Unit Recording Sheet (URS) with marking on the work where appropriate.
3. Centres complete 'centre authentication form' and candidates complete 'candidate authentication sheet'.
4. Assessors complete 1 unit recording sheet per candidate (URS), per unit. Make brief comments where helpful, assign marks.
5. Complete internal standardisation – centres can choose how they record this.
6. Submit final standardised marks electronically.
7. Send sample of work as requested/host moderation visit.

So for each unit, for each candidate we need to see just 2 documents at moderation:

- the work
- the completed URS.

plus communication of your centres' marks.

You retain;

- centre authentication form
- candidate authentication forms
- your internal standardisation records.

When sending work for moderation we don't need you to:

- send us evidence of internal standardisation (unless we subsequently ask)
- provide a separate record of when you complete parts of this process
- seek approval for use of OCR's set assignments
- be certified as an OCR-approved internal assessor
- provide additional internal documents such as job descriptions, organisation charts, organisational quality plans, record of staff briefings/meetings, learner action plans.

We find the course delivery smooth and stress free! No need to provide a load of documentation or assessment plans in advance which means we can focus on the delivery and not worrying about admin.

I've been really impressed by all the support I have received – thank you OCR.

Laura Trusdale | Minsthorpe Community College, Yorkshire

Want to find out more? – join us on one of our admin webinars, where our customer support managers will walk you through the end-to-end process. Book on to our webinars at **ocr.org.uk/professionaldevelopment**

Watch our video which outlines the administration essentials and moderation process at **ocr.org.uk/cambridgenationals**

Planning, Teaching, Learning and Assessment Support

We will provide you with a range of planning, teaching, learning and assessment support including:

Delivery guide

A range of lesson ideas with associated activities you can use with students to deliver the content of the unit.

Topic delivery packs and lesson elements

Task sheets and accompanying instructions for some of the activities within the Delivery Guide.

Resources link

An e-resource providing you with a range of links to teaching and learning websites and materials.

Skills guide

A range of generic skills guides covering topics such as communication, research skills and exam technique.

Sample learner work

We have created sample learner work that shows, for each unit, an example of a Mark Band 1 piece of work and what it would have needed to move to Mark Band 2, and an example of a Mark Band 3 piece of work and why it was better than a Mark Band 2 piece of work.

Past papers

Previous examination papers for each subject are placed on the website for you and your students to practise with.

Combined past papers

We have taken a past paper, the marking criteria for it and the examiner's comments and put them all into one document. It gives a really simple and clear view of the examined part of the Cambridge Nationals.

ExamBuilder

ExamBuilder is our question builder platform that draws on historic past paper to stimulate a real examination whilst giving students opportunity to practise and build confidence. It gives you the ability to create assessments by tailoring questions or parts of questions to reflect the topics you have covered.

Active results

Active results allows you to view a number of different reports, showing different aspects of students' progress or attainment. Reports can also be filtered to allow a more detailed analysis of results.

It allows you to:

- Review reports on the performance of individual candidates, cohorts of students and whole centres
- Analyse results at question and/or topic level
- Compare your centre with OCR national averages or similar OCR centres
- Identify trends across the centre
- Gain additional insight to support decisions, e.g. whether to apply for an enquiry about results
- Facilitate effective planning and delivery of courses
- Identify areas of the curriculum where students excel or struggle
- Help pinpoint strengths and weaknesses of students and teaching departments



Your Journey with us

Our aim is to support you on your journey with us – from initial enquiry right through to results day. To get off on the right foot, you may want to take advantage of the support we provide for Cambridge Nationals.

Subject Advisor support

Our qualifications have subject advisors who are there to support you for the duration of the qualification. If you are starting the qualification for the first time or are new to OCR then you can arrange to speak to a subject advisor on the telephone or via WebEx to help get you started. Face to Face network events, alongside other centres, can also be arranged. If at any time you need further support our subject advisors are always on hand to answer your email queries about delivery and assessment, qualification structure, resources and support – or any subject specific queries you might have. To ensure that your support is of the highest quality, our subject advisors are all experts in their area with a range of relevant experience including teaching and assessment.



Advisory support

If your centre is intending to deliver or has already started delivering Cambridge Nationals, and would like some additional support, you can take advantage of our advisory support telephone service. Advisory support covers a variety of topics such as: entry and assessment administration, qualification structure, assessment methods, teaching and learning materials, and delivery ideas. We recommend that you contact us early on in your delivery so that we can put the correct support in place and make sure you're on the right track. Simply tell us what you need by completing the Advisory Support request form on our website and email it to us at ocr.org.uk/professionaldevelopment. Our CPD Services Team will then be in touch to help you get the support you need.

Please note that one thing we can't do is look at live student work!

Training events

We offer a range of free CPD to support you in your teaching and assessing. For those of you who want to find out more about a specification we'd suggest attending 'Choosing OCR' which will give you an overview of the qualification. Other CPD events help you prepare for delivery and understand assessment requirements.

We also provide regular online opportunities, allowing you to join us in an online Q&A session where you can ask our subject expert any question relating to the Cambridge Nationals subject. These events take place regularly throughout the year, and are absolutely free: ocr.org.uk/professionaldevelopment

We also pride ourselves on our support for Exams Officers, with regular face-to-face events as well as frequent webinars that focus on the administration of Cambridge Nationals. Visit our training and networks page to book your support.



Open evenings

Check out our Cambridge Nationals website where you can find video case studies and resources to support your open evenings.



For more information visit

 ocr.org.uk/cambridgenationals

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Call our Customer Support Centre on
01223 553998

Alternatively, you can email us on
vocational.qualifications@ocr.org.uk



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