

Summary Brochure  
2015/16



# ***SUPPORTING A STUDENT'S ROAD TO DISCOVERY***

Designed to equip them with the knowledge, skills, behaviours  
and attributes to progress and succeed



KNOWLEDGE  
FUN  
PRACTICAL FLEXIBLE  
SUCCESS  
RECOGNISED  
ATTRIBUTES  
PRACTICAL  
ENGAGING  
PATHWAYS  
PROFESSIONAL  
ENGAGING  
SKILLS  
BREADTH  
PROGRESSION  
CONTEXTUAL  
BEHAVIOURS

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*OCR is 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, equip them with the knowledge and skills they need for their future, and to recognise and celebrate their achievements.

We develop our qualifications in close consultation with teachers, industry leaders and government to ensure they are relevant for today's students and meet requirements set by the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual).

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

For us, it's also about educating people in the knowledge and skills required for further education or employment and for the community as a whole. It's also 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.

From Entry Level through to Higher Apprenticeships and Level 7. These include our exciting **Cambridge Nationals** and **Cambridge Technicals**, which are carefully designed to meet the needs of your 14 – 16 and 16+ students. This summary brochure explains more about what we can offer you and your students.

## ***Spotlight on high-quality vocational qualifications***

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Cambridge Nationals and Cambridge Technicals are a complete suite of vocational qualifications that offer students alternative pathways to support their future study and career choices.

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## Cambridge Nationals



Launched in 2012 designed specifically for students aged 14 – 16.

Available in a range of engaging subjects that are equivalent in size to GCSEs. They are included in current Key Stage 4 performance tables so eligible for inclusion in future tables.

They provide an excellent start for vocational study and enable progression to Level 3 vocational qualifications such as our Cambridge Technicals or A Levels.

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## Cambridge Technicals



With a broad range of subjects to choose from, Cambridge Technicals are for students age 16 – 19 and provide a strong base for progression to either university, apprenticeships or directly into work.

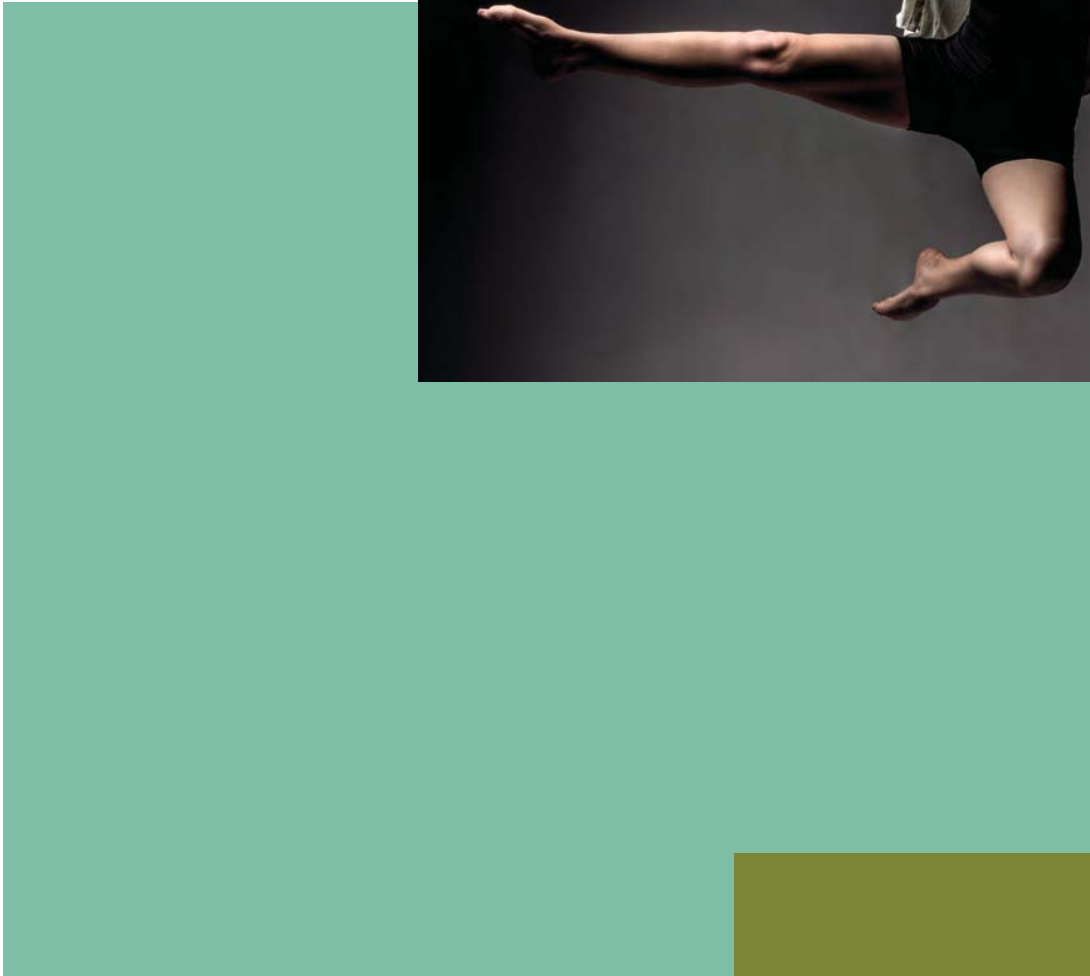
Available in a range of sizes which are equivalent to 1, 2 or 3 A Levels and they have UCAS tariff points.



## The Qualifications Levels

Age	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
14-16	<b>Cambridge Nationals</b> Cambridge Nationals are available as an Award, Certificate and Diploma, with the Certificate being the same size as a GCSE. They use both internal and external assessment and are recognised in DfE Key Stage 4 performance tables. Most are recognised within Progress 8 performance measures.			
16-19		<b>Cambridge Technicals</b> Level 2 Cambridge Technicals are available as Certificate, Extended Certificate and Diploma. There's plenty of flexibility with the choice of units. They're 100% internally assessed.	<b>Cambridge Technicals</b> Level 3 Cambridge Technicals are available in five sizes. All Level 3 Cambridge Technicals gain UCAS points providing a strong base for progression to university. Plus, they're designed to meet the DfE criteria for Key Stage 5 performance measures.	<b>Cambridge Technicals</b> Level 4 Cambridge Technicals are available as Diploma. There's a seamless progression route to this qualification from Cambridge Technicals at Level 3. It can be achieved on a full-time or part-time basis making it an attractive option for people in work who want to up-skill to improve their career prospects.





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# SUPPORTING YOUR STUDENTS' JOURNEY...

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## *Cambridge Nationals Level 1/2*

- Business and Enterprise
- Engineering
- Health and Social Care
- ICT
- Creative iMedia
- Science
- Sport Science / Sport Studies
- Child Development (Sept 2016)

## *Cambridge Technicals Level 2*

- Art & Design
- Business
- Health and Social Care
- IT
- Media
- Performing Arts
- Science
- Sport

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*Cambridge Nationals and Cambridge Technicals provide your students with the knowledge, understanding and skills they need. Find out which subjects are available and at which level below.*



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### ***Cambridge Technicals Level 3***

- Art & Design
- Business
- Engineering (Sept 2015)
- Health and Social Care
- IT
- Media
- Performing Arts
- Science (Sept 2016)
- Sport

### ***Cambridge Technicals Level 4***

- Health and Social Care
- IT

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# SUPPORTING YOUR JOURNEY WITH US...

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Our aim is to support you effectively from your initial enquiry right through to results day. To get you off on the right foot, you might want to take advantage of the face-to-face support we provide for Cambridge Nationals and Cambridge Technicals. Here's a brief overview of what we offer you.

## ***Subject expert visits***

Subject expert visits are available to your centre before the specification has been taught.

## ***Advisory visit***

If your centre's already delivering Cambridge Technicals but needs some additional support, you can take advantage of a free advisory visit before your first moderation.

## ***CPD training events***

We also provide INSET events on various dates and at locations throughout the UK.

## ***Online community***

If you want to interact with other tutors, try our online community. You can share and swap ideas for delivery, post questions, support others, suggest ideas for employer engagement, share links to other teaching and learning resources and more.

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## Teaching, learning and assessment support

We've used our know-how to create a practical range of teaching, learning and assessment materials.

## Teaching and learning materials

Each qualification page includes a variety of materials specifically designed to support your teaching.





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## Model assignments

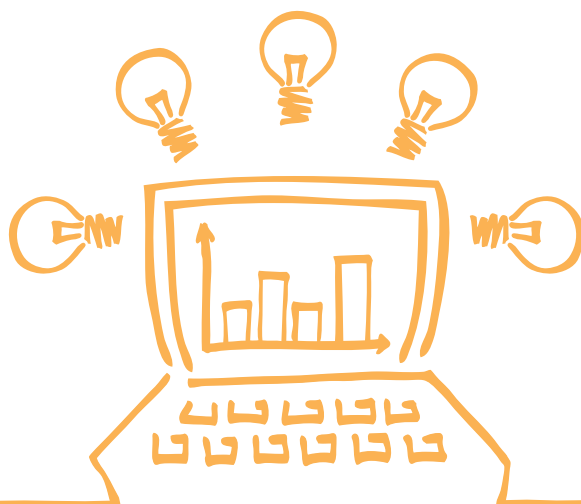
For Cambridge Nationals, we provide you with model assignments to use for the internally assessed units.

You can modify the assignment so it can be put into a local context your students might relate to more easily, or to allow for differences in the materials, equipment and facilities available at your centre. You'll find guidance on what can be modified in each assignment in the section 'Teacher Information' under 'Scope of permitted model assignment modification'.

We'll review the model assignments annually, which may result in an assignment being withdrawn and replaced. You **MUST** check our website to see which model assignments are available. We'll give approximately 12 months' notice if we're going to withdraw an assignment so we don't disadvantage students who have already started working on it.

For each of our Cambridge Technicals, we provide you with one model assignment per level. You can use this with your students, adapt it to meet your local environment, or use it as a basis to create your own assignments.

As Cambridge Technicals are vocational, we think it's really important for your students to be set assignments that reflect the local environment. This is why we've left the setting of assignments up to you. If you're concerned that your assignment doesn't meet the unit requirements, you can use our Assignment Checking Service.



# ASSESSMENT PREPARATION SUPPORT

## *Assignment Checking Service*

This is available through the CPD Hub. Simply upload your assignment and our experts will check it and provide feedback within ten days; you'll then be able to view our report online through the CPD Hub.

Checking of a single mandatory unit assignment is free, however, there's a charge of £30 per assignment for optional units. Access the service by following these simple steps:

- Access the Assignment Checking Service through the CPD Hub at [www.cpdhub.ocr.org.uk](http://www.cpdhub.ocr.org.uk)
- Select your Cambridge Technicals subject and unit number
- Complete the payment details
- Upload your centre-set assignment and submit your request
- Within ten days, you'll receive an email advising that your feedback report is available to view online.



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## *Sample assessment material*

For Cambridge Nationals and Cambridge Technicals that have externally assessed units, we provide sample assessment materials including:

- Examiner reports
- Mark schemes
- Past papers.

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## *Sample learner work*

We know you like to make sure your students are on the right track and working towards gaining the best possible outcome they can. We can't look at your students' live work, but the CPD Hub has a range of sample learner work for Cambridge Nationals and Cambridge Technicals.

Sample learner work is just that... a sample; it's not exemplary or a 'gold standard'. Our Chief Moderator has looked at the work and, in many cases, provided a commentary on how the work stacks up against the assessment criteria, or annotated the script to show which assessment criteria have been met. This should help you get a feel for what's expected and how your students are getting on.

We'll aim to get more sample learner work uploaded onto the CPD Hub as and when it becomes available, so remember to keep visiting it.



## *What's next for Cambridge Nationals and Cambridge Technicals?*

We're now redeveloping our current Cambridge Nationals and Technicals suites so they'll meet the characteristics defined by the DfE for the qualification to be recognised in the Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 accountability measures.

The DfE is easing in the new measures, allowing a phased approach to redeveloping vocational qualifications. Here's a summary of what that means for you.



## Level 1/2 Cambridge Nationals

Teaching begins on a two-year programme	Level 1/2 Cambridge Nationals qualifications certificated in:		
	Summer 2017	Summer 2018	Summer 2019 onwards
<b>September 2015</b> Subjects available: Business, Engineering, Health and Social Care, ICT, Creative iMedia, Science, Sport	Current suite: 25% external assessment 75% internal assessment		
<b>September 2016</b> Last starts for full-time two-year programme on current suite	Current suite unchanged: 25% external assessment 75% internal assessment		
<b>September 2017</b> First teaching of <b>redeveloped</b> subjects: Business, Health and Social Care, ICT, Science, Sport			Redeveloped subjects must meet full characteristics. Other subjects will remain unchanged

## Level 2 Cambridge Nationals... September 2017 and beyond

The redevelopment of Cambridge Nationals will be a phased approach, with the first tranche ready for first teaching in September 2017.

First teaching 2018:

- Creative iMedia

First teaching 2019:

- Engineering

## Level 2 Cambridge Technicals

Teaching begins on a two-year programme	Level 2 Cambridge Technicals qualifications certificated in:		
	Summer 2017	Summer 2018	Summer 2019 onwards
<b>September 2015</b> Subjects available (current Level 2 suite) Art & Design, Business, Health and Social Care, IT, Media, Performing Arts, Science, Sport	Current suite – 100% internal assessment		
<b>September 2016</b> Last starts for full-time two-year programme on current suite		Current suite unchanged – 100% internal assessment	
<b>September 2017</b> First teaching of <b>redeveloped</b> subjects: Art & Design, Business, Health and Social Care, IT, Media, Performing Arts, Science, Sport			All subjects must meet full characteristics

## Level 2 Cambridge Technicals... September 2017 and beyond

Working with key industry employers and experts, we're planning to start redeveloping the Level 2 Cambridge Technicals in September 2015.

Level 2 Cambridge Technicals that are designed to meet the Technical Certificate characteristics will provide your students with the skills required when starting out in their chosen career. These qualifications will include a range of mandatory, optional and specialist pathway units; allowing your students to really focus on what's right for their chosen career path.

## Level 3 Cambridge Technicals

Teaching begins on a two-year programme	Level 3 Cambridge Technicals qualifications certificated in:		
	Summer 2016	Summer 2017	Summer 2018 onwards
<b>September 2014</b> Subjects available (current suite): Art & Design, Business, Health and Social Care, IT, Media, Performing Arts, Sport	Current suite – 100% internal assessment		
<b>September 2015</b> First teaching of OCR's new subject in new assessment model: Engineering  Last starts for full-time two-year programme		Engineering; external and internal assessment (DfE full characteristic). Current suite unchanged	
<b>September 2016</b> First teaching of <b>redeveloped</b> subjects: Science, Business, Health and Social Care, IT, Sport			All subjects must meet full characteristics

## Level 3 Cambridge Technicals... September 2015 and beyond

## Applied General

We're working with universities to make sure the Level 3 Cambridge Technicals that are designed to meet the Applied General characteristics will provide your students with the depth and breadth of knowledge, as well as the understanding of skills required for further study in that subject area at university.

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## ***What does the Applied General Vocational qualification offer your students?***

Initial indications from the general qualifications reform are that 'applied' subjects could cease to exist; and that the content of some of the more practical qualifications could change, resulting in a student's practical ability having a limited contribution towards the final grade. Plus, with the increase of examinations and the introduction of linear rather than modular assessment, the academic A Level route may not suit all of your students.

Some students who would generally undertake an academic qualification may benefit from taking an Applied General vocational qualification. We can provide you with guidance and support so you can migrate your delivery to suit your students' needs.

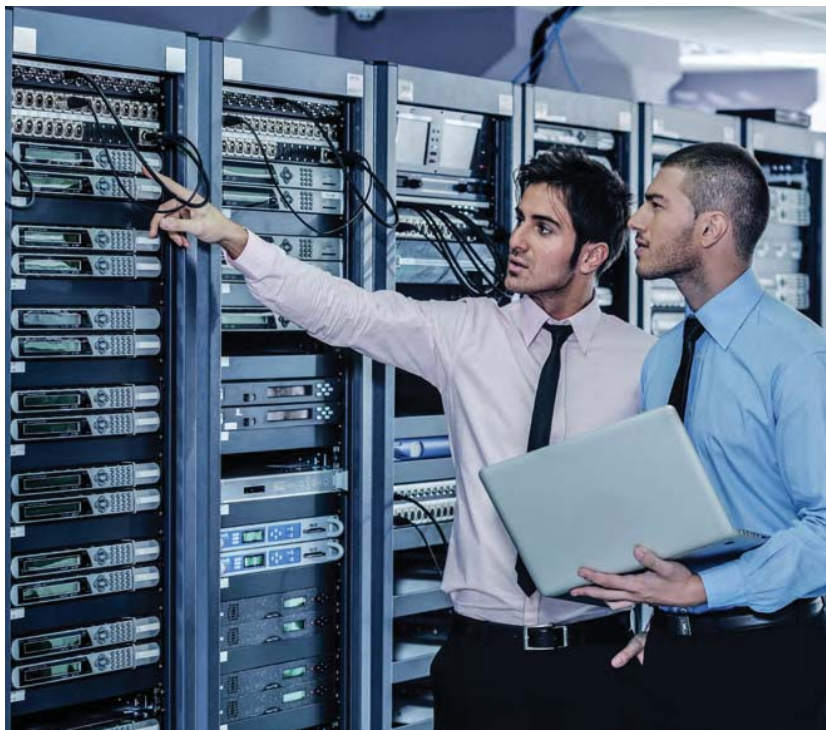
The Level 3 Cambridge Technicals will include AS and A2 equivalent size qualifications, which will have nested units enabling your students to move from one size to the other. We're aware that the decoupling of the AS from the A Level may not provide the flexibility you need to offer a comprehensive study programme. Therefore, Level 3 Cambridge Technicals will provide you with the solution you need to give students flexibility within their study programme, at the same time as making sure they have a recognised qualification that will prepare them for study within higher education.



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## *Tech Level*

We've worked with key industry employers and experts on our Level 3 Cambridge Technicals that are designed to meet the Tech Level characteristics. They're carefully designed to provide your students with the skills required when starting out in their chosen career. The qualifications will include a range of mandatory, optional and specialist pathway units so your students can really focus on what's right for their chosen career path.







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## *Co-teachable*

All the qualifications across the Level 3 Cambridge Technicals suite, regardless of whether they're Applied General or Tech Level, can be co-taught. Plus, if a student should leave your institution or change their mind on their final destination, they can top-up / move down different qualification sizes.

We'll also be seeking UCAS recognition for all qualifications in our Level 3 Cambridge Technicals suite.



Our Customer Contact Centre  
is available to take your call between  
8am - 5.30pm Monday to Friday.  
We're always delighted to answer any  
questions or give you advice.

**02476 851509**



For more information visit  
**[WWW.OCR.ORG.UK/VOCATIONAL](http://WWW.OCR.ORG.UK/VOCATIONAL)**



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