

Transferable Skills - Wales

For Apprentices Registered up to 31st August 2010

Up to 31st August 2010 the apprentice must achieve (or have achieved) Key Skills at the relevant level as follows (unless the apprentice has already achieved a qualification on the proxy list, which may exempt them for all or part of Key Skills/Functional Skills, or is covered by the relaxation ruling):

For the Apprenticeship (Level 2):

Communication	Minimum Level
Key Skills Communication	1
Application of Number	Minimum Level
Key Skills Application of Number	1
Information and Communications Technology (ICT)	Minimum Level
Key Skills Information Communication Technology (ICT)	1

For the Advanced Apprenticeship (Level 3):

English	Minimum Level
Key Skills Communication or Functional Skills English	2
Mathematics	Minimum Level
Key Skills Application of Number or Functional Skills Mathematics	2
Information and Communications Technology (ICT)	Minimum Level
Key Skills Information Communication Technology (ICT) or Functional Skills Information Communication Technology (ICT) - Vehicle Maintenance & Repair/Roadside Assistance & Recover/Vehicle Body & Paint Operations.	1
Key Skills Information Communication Technology (ICT) or Functional Skills Information Communication Technology (ICT) - Vehicle Parts Operations/ Vehicle Sales.	2

Proxy qualifications

Proxy qualifications are those qualifications that assess the same knowledge and skills aspects as the Key Skills. Because of this overlap, candidates can claim exemption from all or part of particular Key Skills qualifications for up to **five years** from the date of the award to registration on Apprenticeship. This is

only applicable for the specific accredited proxy qualifications. For full details of accredited proxy qualifications, please click on the link below to download:

[QCDA Proxy and Exemptions List](#)

***Note:** The IMI is not responsible for creating or maintaining the 'Proxy List' this was the responsibility of QCDA, who are closing as part of the Government's education reforms. The IMI will not be accepting qualifications that are not on the 'Proxy List' as a proxy unless the qualification in question is a direct replacement for a qualification that has expired on the 'Proxy List'.

Relaxation Ruling

The relaxation ruling was introduced in September 2001 and allows candidates who started on an Apprenticeship or Advanced Apprenticeship programme on or after 1 September 2001, and who have achieved a good grade A*-C GCSE in English, Mathematics and/or ICT, to complete their Frameworks without being required to take the level 2 (level 1 by default) Communication, Application of Number and /or ICT Key Skills qualifications.

This also applies to those candidates who have achieved a GCE A/AS level at grade A-E in English Language, English Literature, English Language and Literature, Mathematics, Pure Mathematics, Further Mathematics, ICT and/or Applied ICT. The relaxation principle has been applied here because GCE A/AS level qualifications are seen to be higher than the Key Skills qualifications at level 2.

Achievement of the GCSE/A/AS level must be no longer than **five years** before the date of registration on the Apprenticeship frameworks. For framework completion purposes, those achieving an A*-C GCSE in English or Mathematics in the summer are deemed to have been certified on the 31st August, while the date for those achieving during the winter months is deemed to be 31st March.

For Apprentices Registered from 1st September 2010

From 1st September 2010 the apprentice is required to complete Essential Skills Wales (ESW) to achieve the 'Transferable Skills' element of the framework. There are no allowances for the use of proxy qualifications or relaxation rulings against Essential Skills Wales. However there are some arrangements that have been put in place to help with the transition from Key Skills to Essential Skills Wales. The apprentice **must** achieve (or have achieved) Essential Skills Wales at the relevant level as follows (unless the apprentice qualifies under the transitional arrangements from Key Skills to Essential Skills Wales):

For the Foundation Apprenticeship (Level 2):

Communication	Minimum Level or Grade
Essential Skills Wales qualification in Communication	1
Application of Number	Minimum Level or Grade
Essential Skills Wales qualification in Application of Number	1

Information and Communications Technology (ICT) (Bar the Vehicle Fitting Framework as ICT was not deemed occupationally relevant)	Minimum Level or Grade
Essential Skills Wales qualification in ICT	1

For the Apprenticeship (Level 3):

Communication	Minimum Level or Grade
Essential Skills Wales qualification in Communication	2
Application of Number	Minimum Level or Grade
Essential Skills Wales qualification in Application of Number	2
Information and Communications Technology (ICT) (Bar the Vehicle Fitting Framework as ICT was not deemed occupationally relevant)	Minimum Level or Grade
Essential Skills Wales qualification in ICT	2

Transitional Arrangements - Key Skills to Essential Skills Wales

Key Skills qualifications (in the same subject and at the same level) will be accepted as alternatives to Essential Skills Wales qualifications if registered on Key Skills before 31st August 2010 and achieved by 31st August 2011.

Proxy qualifications for Key Skills in ICT (only) will be accepted as alternatives to the Essential Skills Wales qualification in ICT if registered on the proxy qualification before 31st August 2010 and achieved by 31st August 2011.

Proxy qualifications

Proxy qualifications are those qualifications that assess the same knowledge and skills aspects as the Key Skills. Because of this overlap, candidates can claim exemption from all or part of particular Key Skills qualifications for up to **five years** from the date of the award to registration on Apprenticeship. This is only applicable for the specific accredited proxy qualifications. For full details of accredited proxy qualifications, please click on the link below to download the QCDA list:

http://www.qcda.gov.uk/resources/assets/Proxy_exemptions_for_key_skills_-_qualification_list.pdf

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