OCR

RECOGNISING ACHIEVEMENT

CAMBRIDGE ASSESSMENT GROUP

Back to Basics

A new approach to Skills for Life

Mark Dawe, Chief Executive, OCR

CAMBRIDGE ASSESSMENT

UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE International Examinations

UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE ESOL Examinations
English for Speakers of Other Languages

OCR
RECOGNISING ACHIEVEMENT

Putting learning at the heart of assessment

OCR

OCR is a **not-for-profit** organisation so success, for us, is measured through the impact and reach of our activities and the scale of our contribution to **helping learners** realise their aspirations.

OCR
RECOGNISING ACHIEVEMENT

Our purpose is to work in **partnership** with others to provide assessments that support education in ways which enable all learners to reach their full potential and to recognise and celebrate their achievements.

Back to Basics: A new approach to Skills for Life

Skills
For Life

- Great success of Skills for Life
- 2.8 million qualified, exceeding targets

Back to Basics: A new approach to Skills for Life

Wolf…

"These awards contributed directly to one of the previous government's most important targets, and were very easy to pass…

"The funding for Key Skills was also intentionally generous and designed to encourage registrations."

Functional Skills

OCR Pilot Findings

- **The most effective way to deliver Functional Skills is as embedded learning - teaching should just be a part of other delivery**

- **Most Post 16 training providers cannot teach in this way because of their existing delivery models**

- **It is the difference in approach to assessment and thus to teaching that is the fundamental change in these qualifications, not a significant alteration in content.**

Functional Skills Case Study

“We chose three awarding bodies last year to try out; Edexcel, AQA and OCR. We really liked the OCR 'window' approach to timetabling of the tests.

"Learners enjoy the practicality of the course, the way it relates to their lives and to real life. Teachers here enjoy the fact there are no portfolios!”

Tony House
Examinations, Accreditation and Timetable Manager
Thames Valley University

Functional Skills

OCR's Response

- **Our turn around time reduced to 20 days**
- **A week-long test window every month**

Back to Basics: a new approach to Skills

Skills for *all*

- **Functional Skills does not work for all**
- **Maths & English to 18**
- **An alternative to GCSE's**

Back to Basics: A new approach to Skills for Life

Wolf…

"…Maths and English are of critical importance to securing progression in education and the labour market. Yet funding incentives and government targets have conspired to prevent many young people from improving their maths and English skills…"

Back to Basics: A new approach to Skills for Life

A new approach

- OCR is looking at a new approach
- Exploring opportunities, consultation and collaboration
- Tell us what you think…

Talk to us…

Contact

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