

Level Descriptors for British Training Board Qualifications

Level	NQF examples	RQF/QCF/CQFW/QALL examples	FHEQ examples
Entry	Entry level certificate Entry level Skills for Life	Entry level award, certificate and diploma Entry level Functional Skills Entry level Foundation Learning	
1	GCSE (grades D-G) Key Skills level 1 NVQ level 1 Skills for Life level 1 Foundation diploma	BTEC award, certificate and diploma level 1 Foundation Learning level 1 Functional Skills level 1 OCR National	
2	GCSE (grades A*-C) Key Skills level 2 NVQ level 2 Skills for Life level 2 Higher diploma	BTEC award, certificate and diploma level 2 Functional Skills level 2 Achievement at level 2 reflects the ability to select and use relevant knowledge, ideas, skills and procedures to complete well-defined tasks and address straightforward problems. It includes taking responsibility for completing tasks and procedures and exercising autonomy and judgement subject to overall direction or guidance.	
3	AS and A level Advanced Extension Award Cambridge International award International Baccalaureate Key Skills level 3 NVQ level 3 Advanced diploma Progression diploma	BTEC award, certificate and diploma level 3 BTEC National OCR National Cambridge National Achievement at level 3 reflects the ability to identify and use relevant understanding, methods and skills to complete tasks and address problems that, while well defined, have a measure of complexity. It includes taking responsibility for initiating and completing tasks and procedures as well as exercising autonomy and judgment within limited parameters. It also reflects awareness of different perspectives or approaches within an area of study or work.	
4	Certificate of higher education Key Skills level 4 NVQ level 4	BTEC Professional award, certificate and diploma level 4 Achievement at level 4 reflects the ability to identify and use relevant understanding, methods and skills to address problems that are well defined but complex and non-routine. It includes taking responsibility for overall courses of action as well as exercising autonomy and judgement within fairly broad parameters. It also reflects understanding of different perspectives or approaches Within an area of study or work.	Certificate of higher education HNC
5	HND NVQ level 4 Higher diploma	BTEC Professional award, certificate and diploma level 5 HNC HND Achievement at level 5 reflects the ability to identify and use theoretical and technical understanding, methods and skills to address problems that are well defined but complex and Non-routine. It includes taking responsibility for overall courses of action as well as exercising autonomy and judgement within fairly	Diploma of higher education Diploma of further education Foundation degree

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		broad parameters. It also reflects understanding of different perspectives or approaches within an area of study or work.	HND
6	NVQ level 6	BTEC Advanced Professional award, certificate and diploma level 6	Bachelor's degree Graduate certificate Graduate diploma
7	BTEC Advanced Professional award, certificate and diploma level 7 Fellowship and fellowship diploma Postgraduate certificate Postgraduate diploma NVQ level 7	BTEC Advanced Professional award, certificate and diploma level 7	Master's degree Postgraduate certificate Postgraduate diploma
8	NVQs level 8	Vocational qualifications level 8	Doctorate



The British Training Board