

# **Children & Young People's Briefing:**

## **Diplomas and the 14-19 Curriculum**

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# Delivering 14-19 Reform: Next Steps

The three goals of the Government's 14-19 Reform are:

- To ensure that all young people participate in education and/or training until at least their 18th birthday (by 2015), stretching and challenging them to achieve their potential and go on to further or higher education or skilled employment
- To give young people the knowledge and skills that employers and the economy need to prosper
- To close the achievement gap so that all have an equal opportunity to succeed, irrespective of gender, race, disability or background



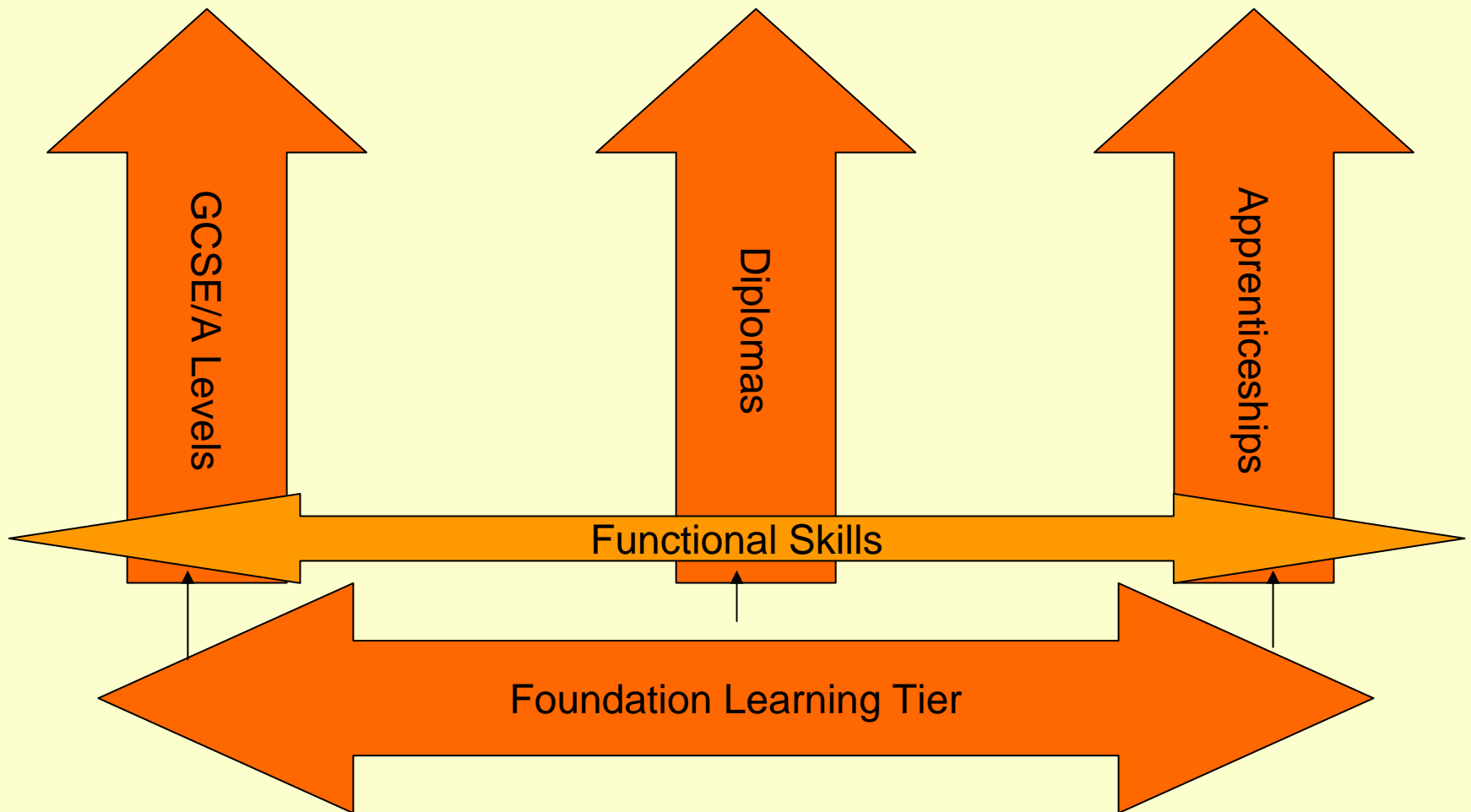
# 14-19 Learner Entitlement

Learning for young people will lead to qualifications from one of four routes:

- Apprenticeships: an entitlement to a place by 2013 for all 16 year olds suitably qualified
- Diplomas: an entitlement by 2013 for all 14-16 year olds to the first 14 Diplomas and for 16-18 year olds to all 17 Diplomas
- Foundation Learning Tier: an entitlement by 2010 to study one of the progression pathways
- General Qualifications, e.g. GCSEs and A levels



# 14-19 Learning Pathways: Entitlement



Diploma line	First introduced
Society, Health & Development	2008
Creative & Media	
Engineering	
Construction & Built Environment	
Information Technology	
Business, Admin & Finance	2009
Environmental & Land-based	
Manufacturing & Product Design	
Hair & Beauty	
Hospitality & Catering	
Sport & Active Leisure	2010
Retail Business	
Travel and Tourism	
Public Services	
Languages	2011
Humanities	
Science	

# Diplomas

- Diplomas are being introduced from Sept 08 as pilots (City, Mansfield, Bassetlaw and Newark & Sherwood)
- Diplomas are related to **broad occupational sectors**, and have been designed in part by employers, HEIs, awarding bodies, young people, universities
- Diplomas should **develop learners' employability skills**, and enable progression to FE, HE and employment. Progression should **not** be limited to the same occupational sector
- Available at 3 levels in 17 lines of learning
- National **entitlement** from 2013: 14-16 year olds can access any of the first 14 Diplomas at an appropriate level; 16-19 can access any of the 17 Diplomas from 2013



## Diploma Roll-out in Nottinghamshire from Gateway 1 and 2

Diploma Line	Consortium Area	Delivery
Business, Admin and Finance	Newark Broxtowe Mansfield	2009 2010 2010
Construction & the Built Environment	Bassetlaw Ashfield Mansfield Gedling	2008 2009 2009 2010
Creative and Media	Newark Mansfield Broxtowe Gedling	2008 2009 2010 2010
Engineering	Mansfield Bassetlaw	2008 2009
Hair & Beauty	Bassetlaw Mansfield Newark	2009 2009 2009
Hospitality & Catering	Mansfield Gedling	2009 2010
Information Technology	Mansfield Ashfield Rushcliffe	2008 2009 2009
Manufacturing & Product Design	Bassetlaw	2010
Society Health & Development	Bassetlaw Mansfield Newark Broxtowe	2009 2009 2009 2010



# Gateway 2 Funding

ASG Area	Diploma Lines	Gateway 2 Funding
Bassetlaw	Engineering Society, Health & Development Hair and Beauty	£90,000
Mansfield	Creative & Media Construction & The Built Environment Society, Health & Development Hair and Beauty Hospitality	£150,000
Newark & Sherwood	Business, Administration & Finance Society, Health & Development Hair and Beauty	£90,000
Rushcliffe	Information Technology	£30,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£360,000</b>



# What is new about Diplomas?

- There is a focus on **generic skills**
- They offer a **broader programme** than existing work-related qualifications. Young people develop a deep understanding of a diverse sector
- They aim to challenge stereotypes about employment sectors and learners themselves
- They use an **applied approach** to teaching & learning, based on a work-related context
- They are delivered **collaboratively**
- They incorporate **other qualifications**
- They are an employer designed qualification, hence are **valued by employers**

# HE Response to Diplomas

Universities do, on the whole, support Diplomas. On the UCAS website, most of the universities have published a statement of support:

- .... welcomes the new diplomas for entry to higher education. The University is watching the development of diploma subjects with interest, and is currently prepared to take the level 3 diploma as equivalent to A levels. Offers to students taking diplomas will be made in terms of tariff points.
- For entry to degrees, students are recommended to take the Advanced Diploma. Applicants must note that some degrees require certain subject knowledge at level 3, and this will need to be translated into the specialist learning component of the Advanced Diploma.



# Foundation Learning Tier

- The FLT will provide, for the first time, clear progression pathways for young people working at entry level and level 1
- Learners will achieve combinations of qualifications that will prepare them for progression – further learning, training, employment and independent living
- Learners will choose a programme to meet their individual needs, including:
  - academic/vocational units/quals
  - maths, English, IT units/quals
  - personal development units/quals
- FLT will be one of the key progression routes when the participation age is raised to 18 in 2015



# Apprenticeships

- Apprenticeships enable young people to achieve high-quality qualifications, either at level 2 or at level 3 (Advanced), while working and gaining practical skills
- Securing more Apprenticeship places for young people is a key priority; employer support is crucial
- There is a commitment to ensure that Apprenticeships offer appropriate progression routes, including to Diplomas and HE
- Apprenticeships involve learning practical skills for specific job roles
- Young Apprenticeships are for 14-16 year olds who are academically able and want to follow a particular career path



# Functional Skills

- Maths, English and IT qualifications
- Part of Diplomas, new GCSEs (2010) and standalone qualifications.
- Available at entry level to level 2
- Developed with employers
- Assess learners' application of skills in real-life contexts
- Essential to pass all three FS in order to gain a Diploma, or to gain GCSE A\*-C (level 2)

# 14-19 Reform

To support 14-19 reforms, we need to have in place:

- Excellent Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) to help learners make the right choices at 14 and 16
- A 14-19 Area Prospectus, setting out the courses and support available. This should be linked to a Common Application Process that makes it easier to apply for education and training
- The September Guarantee to ensure all 16 and 17 year olds have an offer of a suitable place in learning and targeted supported to those who need it most



# Partnership Working in 14-19 Reform

- Learning providers (including schools, colleges, and work-based learning) will need to plan strategically for these changes by working collaboratively across an area (not always specific to LA boundaries)
- Working with partners such as Local Authorities, Connexions, Nottinghamshire Education Business Alliance, HE institutions etc will support 14-19 reform
- Each district has an Area Strategy Group (ASG) that plans and coordinates local 14-19 developments

