

What's New for 2010/11?



Some big changes are planned for education in the UK. From 2010, all existing qualifications will change to become Awards, Certificates or Diplomas and a whole host of other brand-new qualifications will be on offer. Here's some of what's new at MidKent College.

Functional Skills Qualification Entitlement

These are practical skills that equip students with the necessary knowledge and understanding to use and apply English, Mathematics and IT in everyday life. They help you to maximise your potential in all areas, including higher education, at work, at home and in the community. All full-time students are required to take at least two Functional Skills qualifications and achieve these in order to progress to the next level of study. Part-time adult students may also apply to take up these qualifications.



What is the point of doing an extended project?

You will explore a current area of study or a personal interest using higher level skills such as planning, research, analysis and evaluation. This qualification can give you the edge over other applicants when making your UCAS application. It demonstrates that you have some of the advanced skills required to excel in higher education.

WorkSkills Qualification Entitlement

WorkSkills (sometimes called 'Employability Skills') are flexible BTEC units and qualifications. All full-time students will be offered a WorkSkills Award as part of their main programme of study. Part-time adult students may also apply to take up these qualifications. We wish to equip you with the skills to gain and retain a job in challenging times. WorkSkills builds on the ABC of employability - attitude, behaviour and communication - to develop the skills that employers are looking for and to give students the edge in a competitive climate.



What is it worth?

It is equivalent in size to an AS Level but is at A2 Level of complexity. It is regarded as equivalent to half an A Level (between 20-70 UCAS points* depending on your grade). However you will be working at A2 Level of difficulty. It is not for the faint hearted, but in a year where there is more competition than ever for degree places and job opportunities, it could give you the edge.

Explaining New Qualification Titles 'The QCF'

In 2010 all qualifications in the UK will change, and be called either **Awards, Certificates or Diplomas** within the new Qualifications Credit Framework (QCF). These are more flexible than existing qualifications and enable you to achieve credits at your own pace and level ■

**QCF
CREDITS**

Foundation Learning

Foundation Learning is aimed at all students of any age working below level 2. It will, in time, replace all current entry and level 1 qualifications, including the BTEC Entry and Introductory suites. Foundation Learning programmes will consist of three components Vocational, Functional Skills and WorkSkills.



Extended Projects and UCAS Points

The Extended Project is a brand new stand alone qualification providing you with additional UCAS points*. It is undertaken alongside your main course of level 3 study, e.g. A Levels or BTEC and is designed to 'stretch and challenge' you.

Grade	Tariff points
A*	70
A	60
B	50
C	40
D	30
E	20

*UCAS points cannot be counted if taken as part of Progression/Advanced Diploma.



MidKent College