

Regulated Qualifications

NOCN is recognised to deliver Regulated Qualifications in the UK by Ofqual, CCEA and Qualifications Wales. NOCN also offers regulated qualifications overseas.

NOCN Support during the 3rd Covid lockdown

We know that individuals will want to continue with their learning and assessments where possible. NOCN will facilitate this by providing online assessment as usual, IT systems and full office support during this time and we will continue to provide Quality Assurance services.

NOCN appreciates that centres will need to ensure their processes are safe for staff, and for learners, and that COVID-19 will provide great challenges for continued routine delivery. The attached [FAQs](#) outline NOCN advice and guidance for alternative arrangements and detail how centres can submit requests for special considerations for this period.

To keep centres, learners and NOCN staff safe, face-to-face visits are only being done when essential, but we will maintain face-to-face monitoring when we need to, to ensure quality of delivery. NOCN will continue to support centres and quality assure but will employ contingency arrangements for remote external quality assurance activities. If you require an EQA visit or remote sampling in the next two to three months please contact assurance@nocn.org.uk or your normal EQA. The quality assurance team will discuss how this can be done in a safe manner whilst ensuring fairness to your learners.

The attached [EQA COVID-19 Contingency – Remote EQA Visits and Remote Sampling](#) outlines our contingency plan for this period and provides guidance to centres on what remote EQA visits will involve. Please contact assurance@nocn.org.uk if you need any support or would like to arrange a visit.

We believe that while assessments are taking place, we have to provide monitoring of the assessments to ensure the quality of our qualifications is maintained and will continue to do this via remote platforms. Our EQAs and office-based quality assurance team will be available to answer questions and queries during this period.

To better support Centres we have brought in a number of additional accommodations:

- Practical Assessments: Any full time learners on a Centre based Training Qualification (known as a 'Diploma') who are using the Covid period to work in an occupation allied to their qualification can take evidence from their occupation and use it as a portfolio of evidence for the practical assessments of the full time qualification. This evidence needs to be scrutinised by the Centre and accepted as a suitable alternative to the Practical Assignments.
- Extrapolation of Practical Assessments: For full time learners on a Centre based Training Qualification (known as a 'Diploma') who have completed part of a Practical Assessment but have not fully completed the Assignment, it may be applicable for the Centre to extrapolate the evidence to cover the full Assessment.
- Temporary suspension to the rule that tutors can not invigilate: For an initial period of 3 month it will be permitted for tutors to invigilate their learners during assessments to allow for the maintenance of Covid 'bubbles'.

On top of Remote Invigilation that NOCN is offering, we are also looking to allow Centres to undertake their own remote invigilation. We need to identify suitable Centres for a Pilot into completing the provision of this service, so please contact us if you are interested in taking part via your External Quality Adviser.

Sector Statements for 2020/21

NOCN remains cognisant of the developing national picture. We are determined to provide the best ongoing support whilst also retaining the quality standards we believe in. We would like to draw your attention to the following controls and mitigations that we currently allow.

- [Early Years Qualifications](#)
- [Health and Social Care Qualifications](#)
- [Food Safety](#)
- [Functional Skills](#)
- [Security Licence-Linked Qualifications](#)
- [Construction](#)
- [Forest School](#)
- [SiteRight](#)

NOCN is encouraging centres to plan and make use of blended learning opportunities. Delivery staff should consider using holistic and synoptic approaches for overlapping content to reduce delivery time, where this is possible.

As NOCN is not qualified in public health information we cannot provide any advice or guidance to Training Providers on whether it is safe for them to operate or not, but would obviously insist that national and local regulations should be abided by, that risk analysis should be regularly conducted and the mitigations implemented.

NOCN Office and External Quality Assurance colleagues will continue to provide a full level of service remotely to our customers.