

The Diploma

Bringing learning to life



Diplomas are here

Designed in partnership with employers

Developing the skills you need

Bringing learning to life

What is a Diploma?

Diplomas are new qualifications for 14 to 19-year-olds, which help prepare them, in an innovative and exciting way, for university or employment.

All Diploma students study English, maths and ICT alongside their chosen Diploma subject. They complete an extended project, specialist learning options and at least 10 days' work experience.

These qualifications have been developed by employers, so practical, work-related learning is at the heart of the qualification.



Diplomas are available at **three levels...**

Foundation – equivalent to five GCSEs

Higher – equivalent to seven GCSEs

Advanced – equivalent to three and a half A levels

...in the following subjects

From September 2008

Construction and the Built Environment
Creative and Media Engineering
Information Technology
Society, Health and Development

From September 2009

Business, Administration and Finance
Environmental and Land-Based Studies
Hair and Beauty Studies
Hospitality
Manufacturing and Product Design

From September 2010

Public Services
Retail Business
Sport and Active Leisure
Travel and Tourism

From September 2011

Humanities and Social Sciences
Languages and International Communication
Science

Why should you get involved?

There has never been a better time for employers to get involved with schools and colleges.

Diplomas will help give you better prepared and more knowledgeable young employees with those universal skills that all employers seek, such as how to think creatively, problem-solve, communicate, work independently, and how to work as part of a team.

And because young people will have business world insight, they will make the right career decisions so you can have confidence in recruiting them and in their willingness to learn.

Diplomas are about real-life context, so it is essential that employers get involved.

How can you get involved?

There are many ways that Diploma students can benefit from what you have to offer:

- Help design curriculum
 - Give talks and lectures to enrich young people's learning with real business context
 - Set actual business problems for students to solve in their projects
 - Provide resources, equipment and use of premises
 - Offer work experience placements for students and work shadowing for teachers
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Most importantly Diplomas need your people, places of work and passion to bring learning to life.

**Skills are in short supply
and it's a serious problem
for employers.**

**It's hampering business,
holding back the economy
and denying young people the
chance to succeed at work.**

**You now have the chance
to help put this right through
a new qualification called
The Diploma.**



Developed with the help of over 5,000 employers, Diplomas cover 17 subjects and put employers firmly in the driving seat of what young people learn. Diplomas help equip students with the attributes you are looking for.

Young people will gain the knowledge, skills and experience needed for work in your sector through theoretical study and practical experience. To get a Diploma young people will have to demonstrate they have a good understanding of English, maths and ICT, along with better employability skills.

Diplomas will have a positive impact on your business because young people will enter the workforce with more relevant skills and an understanding of work.

Little surprise then that Vodafone, Rolls Royce, Cisco, BT and a host of other key employers already support Diplomas.

And we want employers like you to join them.

Contact

Find out more about how you can help bring learning to life:

www.dcsf.gov.uk/14-19/employers

You can download this leaflet or order copies online at

www.teachernet.gov.uk/publications Search using reference DCSF-00501-2008.

You can also order more copies by calling 0845 60 222 60;

textphone 0845 60 555 60. Please quote reference 00501-2008LEF-EN.

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department for
children, schools and families

“The British Chamber of Commerce welcomes the Diploma as a qualification designed to meet employer needs. The Diploma offers exciting new opportunities for schools and colleges to work with local Chambers to help ensure young people receive an education which prepares them well for their future employment.”

David Frost,
British Chamber of Commerce



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