

Subject Information
GCSE General Certificate of Secondary Education

Leisure and Tourism (Double award) (3841)

2009 Teacher Standardisation meetings

We will be holding a series of Teacher Standardisation meetings in the spring term. Further information is available on our *Noticeboard* - www.aqa.org.uk/qual/appliedgcse/lat_not.php If you are a new centre or your marks were significantly adjusted and haven't attended a meeting this academic year, please note you must attend one of these meetings.

Portfolio Advisers

We have sent details of Portfolio Advisers for this academic year to all centres on our database. If you have not received this information or need clarification about your Portfolio Adviser, please **e-mail:** leisureandtourism@aqa.org.uk If you are a new centre or new to teaching this subject please **e-mail:** leisureandtourism@aqa.org.uk so that we can inform you who your Portfolio Adviser is and can invite you to a Teacher Standardisation meeting.

Last assessment opportunity June 2010

The last assessment opportunity for the current specification is June 2010. Details of the new specification for first teaching from September 2009 are available on our website www.aqa.org.uk/qual/newgcse/pdf/AQA-4840-W-SP-10.PDF

Media Studies (3571)

Details of our coursework standardising meetings for new centres or those whose marks were adjusted are available on our website. If you need a booking form for one of these meetings, please contact the subject department **on** 01483 477764 or **e-mail:** mediastudies@aqa.org.uk giving your centre number and stating that you wish to attend the GCSE Media Studies coursework standardising meeting.

French Full Course (3651), Short Course (3657)

German Full Course (3661), Short Course (3667)

Spanish Full Course (3691), Short Course (3697)

Bengali (3636), Italian (3631), Modern Hebrew (3676), Panjabi (3681), Polish (3686), Urdu (3646)

From summer 2009, the Listening Tests for GCSE Modern Foreign Language specifications will be provided on CDs. Although CDs will be the normal medium, you may request the Listening Tests on cassette tapes until further notice.

- CDs : the Foundation Tier tests and Higher Tier tests will be provided on separate disks.
- Tapes : the Foundation Tier and Higher Tier tests will continue to be provided on a separate cassettes.

If you have not already told us that you would prefer to receive cassettes for summer 2009, please telephone the Modern Foreign Languages Department **on** 01423 534381.

We will continue to produce the Listening Test material for the legacy GCE French, German and Spanish examinations on cassette tapes for the lifetime of these specifications.

Subject Information

GCE General Certificate of Education

Law (5161) Advanced Subsidiary, (6161) Advanced

The University of Cambridge Institute of Continuing Education is holding its annual conference for teachers of AS/A Level Law at Madingley Hall, Cambridge on Tuesday 17 March and Wednesday 18 March 2009. If you are interested in attending this conference, please contact the University of Cambridge Institute of Continuing Education:

Tel: 01223 760860

E-mail: profstudies@cont-ed.cam.ac.uk

Website www.cont-ed.cam.ac.uk/profstudies/alevel

Please book early as places are limited.

Leisure Studies (8641) Advanced Subsidiary, (8643) Advanced Subsidiary (Double award), (8646) Advanced, (8649) Advanced (Double award), (8647) Advanced and Advanced Subsidiary (additional)

As support for Double Award centres, on the *Guidance* section for this qualification on our website there is an LS04 candidate script with comments from the Principal Examiner showing how it was marked: www.aqa.org.uk/qual/gceapplied/leisure_teach.php

2008/2009 Teacher Standardisation meetings

We will be holding a catch-up meeting in the spring term for those who were unable to attend one of the autumn term series of Teacher Standardisation meetings. Details will be published on our *Noticeboard* - www.aqa.org.uk/qual/gceapplied/leisure_not.php If you are a new centre or your marks were significantly adjusted and you have not been to a meeting this academic year, please note that you must attend this meeting.

Portfolio Advisers

We have sent details of Portfolio Advisers for this academic year to all centres on our database. If you have not received details or need clarification about your Portfolio Adviser, please **e-mail:** leisurerec-andtourism@aqa.org.uk If you are a new centre or new to teaching this subject please **e-mail:** leisurerec-andtourism@aqa.org.uk so that we can inform you who your Portfolio Adviser is and you can be invited to a Teacher Standardisation meeting.

Mathematics (5361) Advanced Subsidiary, (6361) Advanced, Further Mathematics (5371) Advanced Subsidiary, (6371) Advanced

Revised version of the specification for 2009 onwards

To clarify the requirements for units Statistics 3 (section 22.1) and Decision 2 (section 30.3), we have provided additional notes in the specification. This is not a change to the requirements of these units. A revised version of the GCE Mathematics specification is available on our website at <http://www.aqa.org.uk/qual/gceasa/mathematics.php> **Don't forget** the formulae booklets are not sent automatically with question papers. If you need to order copies an order form is available from the *Publications/Order by post/Order forms* section of our website.

Media Studies (legacy specification) (5571/6571)

Please note that:

- stimulus material for Unit One: Reading the Media (MED1) in January 2009 will be in moving image format
- stimulus material for Unit Six: Comparative Critical Analysis (MED6) in January 2009 will be in print format.

If you have any questions relating to coursework titles on MED3 and MED5 please contact the Media Studies subject department **e-mail:** mediastudies@aqa.org.uk

AS Media Studies (new specification) (1571)

Unit 1 - Centres are advised that GCE Advanced Subsidiary Unit 1: Investigating Media (MEST1) uses a print text in the January 2009 series.

Unit 2 - Please note that your MEST2 Coursework Adviser will contact you this term. The subject department will be sending you details of regional Advisers and their contact addresses in the near future. Please let your Coursework Advisers know if you have any questions relating to coursework titles or the new specification brief. Centres are informed that the MEST2 brief are now available on our website:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/qual/gce/pdf/AQA-MEST2-W-BRIEF-PM-JUN09.PDF>

If you have made estimated entries for GCE Media Studies, we will automatically send you a hard copy of MEST2 Briefs. If you would still like to register your interest please contact our Entries department. We will also shortly be sending you details of forthcoming standardising meetings.

Psychology A (2181) Advanced

PSYA3 – Topics in Psychology

Please note that Section 3.3 on Theories of intelligence in the specification subject content has been amended, by removing reference to learning approaches, to read:

- Theories of intelligence, including psychometric and information processing approaches
- Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences

Travel and Tourism (8651) Advanced Subsidiary, (8653) Advanced Subsidiary (Double award), (8656) Advanced, (8659) Advanced (Double award), (8657) Advanced and Advanced Subsidiary (additional)

2008/2009 Teacher Standardisation meetings

We will be holding a catch-up meeting in the spring term for those that were unable to attend one of the autumn term series of Teacher Standardisation meetings. Details will be available on our *Noticeboard* - www.aqa.org.uk/qual/gceapplied/travel_not.php If you are a new centre or your marks were significantly adjusted and haven't attended a meeting this academic year, please note you must attend this meeting.

Portfolio Advisers

We have sent details of Portfolio Advisers for this academic year to all centres on our database. If you have not received this information or need clarification about your Portfolio Adviser, please

e-mail: travel-andtourism@aqa.org.uk If you are a new centre or new to teaching this subject please

e-mail: travel-andtourism@aqa.org.uk so that we can inform you who your Portfolio Adviser is and you can be invited to a Teacher Standardisation meeting.

Subject Information ELC Entry Level Certificate

Geography (4902)

Please order the Externally Set Assignments using the order form from the *Publications* section of our website: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/public/AQA-ELC-W-ORDER-2009-2010.PDF>

Please note that you must use the Externally Set Assignments (ESA's) for the year in which the candidates will be certificating. Candidates entered for the 2009 examination must therefore complete and submit as part of their portfolios only those ESA's which are "For use in the 2009 examination".

If you have ordered ESA's but they have not arrived then please contact Exams Office Support on 0870 410 1036 or **e-mail:** eos@aqa.org.uk

Subject Information

Key Skills & Basic Skills

[Basic Skills \(8990\)](#), [Key Skills \(9900\) \(KS2004\)](#), [Wider Key Skills \(9970\) \(KS2004\)](#)

ICT tests Levels 3 and 4 data files

The new set of data files for 2008/9 is now available on the QCA Website www.qca.org.uk

Candidates should be given these in read-only form as early as possible in the course to help them develop practical skills in preparation for the tests. To ensure that preparation is broadly based rather than focused on a particular context candidates must not be given prior knowledge of which files will be used in the tests.

Please delete the data files for 2007/8 from your network. New data files may appear to be the same as last year, but some scenarios have been added and others deleted.

Portfolio Advisers

For advice and guidance in producing the Key Skills portfolio contact your Portfolio Adviser. Advisers are not allocated to centres automatically when entries are made. If you need contact details for your Portfolio Adviser, please telephone 0161 953 7588 or 0161 653 7569.

Basic, Key and Wider Key Skills Newsletter

The November newsletter for Basic, Key and Wider Key Skills is now on the AQA Website.

To receive the news and updates by e-mail, please contact the Key Skills team at keyskills@qca.org.uk with your details with .NEWS. in the subject line.

Centre Standardising meetings

There will be more meetings in the spring term. If you have not attended a meeting during the autumn term please contact the Key Skills team for details on 0161 953 7588 or 0161 953 7569.

Key Skills Proxies

The complete list of proxy qualifications, along with conditions for their use, is given on the QCA Website at http://www.qca.org.uk/qca_6562.aspx

Key Skills Communication: Synthesis at Level 3

We have provided some guidance for teachers of Key Skills Communication at Level 3 on our website. Portfolios often fall down on the synthesis element, so we hope this advice will show how weaknesses in this area can be avoided. Please refer to separate enclosure flier Key Skills Communication: Synthesis at Level 3 for more information. For further advice you may also contact your Portfolio Adviser. Full details of the relevant standards are on pages 42-43 of the key skills qualifications standards and guidance (QCA/04/1272).

Portfolios for moderation

Please ensure that all portfolios entered for moderation must be ready by the submission date (**10 January 2009** for the January exams). The moderator may request other portfolios in addition to the sample. You must send these additional portfolios within 5 days of the request. Don't forget to include the Candidate Record Form, signed by the candidate for each portfolio.