

ESSENTIAL SKILLS WALES SUITE SUMMER 2016



ESSENTIAL SKILLS WALES SUITE OVERVIEW - Timelines

Timelines	
ESW AoN and Comms Levels 1 – 4 ICT Levels Entry 1 – Level 4	Last certification: 31/12/2016
ESW ‘Wider’ Key Skills Levels 1 – 4	As above
ESW AoN and Comms Entry 1 - 3	Start: 01/09/2015 Review: 31/08/2020
EAoNS and EComms Levels 1 - 3	As above
EDLS Entry 1 – Level 3	As above
EES Entry 3 – Level 3	As above

ESSENTIAL SKILLS WALES SUITE OVERVIEW – Assessment

Application of Number and Communication – Levels 1 to 3

- Controlled Task and Confirmatory Test
- Use of current ESW will continue for Entry 1 to 3

Digital Literacy – Entry 1 to Level 3

- Controlled Task and Structured Discussion
- ‘Holistically’ will assess: Digital Responsibly; Productivity; Information Literacy; Collaboration; Creativity; Learning

Essential Employability Skills – Entry 3 to Level 3

- Controlled Task and Structured Discussion
- ‘Holistically’ will assess: Planning and Organisation; Creativity and Innovation; Personal Effectiveness; Critical Thinking and Problem Solving

ESSENTIAL SKILLS WALES SUITE OVERVIEW – Controlled Tasks

- Externally set or approved by awarding bodies
- Summative assessment only after candidates have developed their skills
- Taken within an eight week consecutive period to a maximum ‘working time’ i.e.
 - 6 hours for Entry (EDLS and EES)
 - 4 hours for Level 1
 - 5 hours for Level 2
 - 8 hours for Level 3
- Taken unseen under supervised (‘Controlled’) conditions
- Can be divided into sessions but ‘teaching’ not allowed in-between
- Internally assessed by competent staff using mark schemes provided and internally quality assured
- Reported as ‘pass/fail’ (all parts have to be ‘passed’)
- Externally quality assured
- Resit of different Task allowed

ESSENTIAL SKILLS WALES SUITE OVERVIEW – Confirmatory Tests

- Summative assessment of candidate's knowledge
- Taken unseen and unaided **after successful** completion of Controlled Task
- Treated as confidential by centres
- Ideally taken on-line but hard copies allowed
- Taken under supervised conditions in a single sitting
 - Level 1 – 20 questions, maximum duration 30 minutes
 - Level 2 – 20 questions, maximum duration 45 Minutes
 - Level 3 – 30 questions with maximum duration 60 minutes
- Reported as 'pass/fail' with an approximate pass mark of 70%
- Externally produced and marked by awarding bodies
- Compliant with published guidance
- Resit allowed

ESSENTIAL SKILLS WALES SUITE OVERVIEW – Structured Discussion

- Related to a candidate's response to the Controlled Task
- Short (maximum 30 minutes) one-to-one discussion between candidate and their assessor
- Not a question-and-answer session
- Requires preparation on the part of the candidate
- Not part of 'working time' but should take place as soon as after Task
- Carried out upon successful completion of Tasks for EDLS
- Can be appropriate as complimentary evidence to support Task for EES
- Evidenced through completed mark scheme and for standardising e.g.:
 - *video/audio recording; *candidate/assessor notes; *QA observation

ESSENTIAL SKILLS WALES SUITE OVERVIEW – Workshop

Using the Specimen Assessment Material and QW Design Principles (April 2016) consider:

- Portfolio -v- Controlled Task
- Manageability in terms of:
 - * Learners
 - * Tasks and Tests
 - * Evidence
 - * Time
- Delivery, teaching/learning
- Assessment and quality assurance

ESSENTIAL SKILLS WALES SUITE OVERVIEW – Support

- Design Principles (April 2016)
- Specimen Assessment Material (SAMs)
- Guidance – produced on behalf of WG by CollegesWales/ColegauCymru
- Essential Skills suite of Qualifications Handbook
- Assessment and Verification - Guidance for ESW Centres
- Training and support visits

Any Questions?

Contact our specialist Subject Officers and administrative support team for your subject with any queries.

bryan.davies@wjec.co.uk

[@wjec_cbac](https://www.instagram.com/wjec_cbac)

wjec.co.uk

