

## Terms and Conditions of Centre Approval

- Have access to the internet in order to use the Centre Portal
- Have an Equal Opportunities Policy for assessment purposes that can provide access for all candidates in accordance with current legislation
- Have systems to ensure consistency of standards, and support equality of opportunity
- Have an Appeals Policy
- Have a Complaints Policy
- Have a Malpractice Policy
- Have staff with appropriate qualifications and experience to teach our qualifications, have competence in the subject matter of the qualifications, assessment procedures and language(s) used for assessment. Signature will collect details of the following staff members during the on-line approval process:
  - Centre Administrator
  - Quality Assurance Manager who has responsibility for quality assurance processes including demonstrating evidence of QCF regulatory arrangements
  - Accounts Contact
  - Marketing Manager
  - Curriculum Manager
  - Teachers
  - Assessors of Internally Assessed Units
- Have appropriate equipment and resources, including recording equipment and training rooms, to support effective delivery of the assessments leading to the award of credits, and must comply with the requirements of Health and Safety regulations. The following are essential:
  1. *A training room with at least two walls in plain colour, no visual distractions and good lighting*

*2. Video playback facilities, for training purposes*

*3. Video camera and blank tapes (or other forms of recording equipment e.g DVD) for practical assessments which must be recorded*

*4. Access to Signature material*

- Have systems and procedures to ensure that assessments reach us quickly and effectively, allowing the outcome of assessment to lead to the award of credits.
- Has systems in place to ensure consistency of
  - a) the standards and security of assessments and assessment records
  - b) the tracking of learner progress and transmission of assessment outcomes
  - c) the recording of credit accumulation and transfer of credits and exemptions
- Have the ability to obtain ULNs on behalf of the candidates. However where smaller centres do not have the facility, we indicate that we can assist centres in obtaining these. Signature candidate registration process identifies any anomalies with ULNs.
- Will use candidate ID numbers when registering them for assessment to ensure that all achievement is recorded on the unique ID number, therefore allowing certification upon completion of full awards and take steps to confirm learners identity prior to the assessment taking place. Signature carry out bulk merges to rectify any errors.
- Have arrangements in place to allow for recognition of prior Learning (RPL) exemptions or credit transfers, or is aware of when to seek advice from Signature
- For candidates achieving a full qualification (Diploma only) Signature informs the Data Aggregation (DAS)
- Will not undertake any activity that could bring the name of Signature into disrepute
- Will adhere to all Signature policies and procedures
- Will operate any internal/external assessments in full accordance with Signature and or Ofqual. Centres must refer to Signature Assessment Regulations at all times.
- Understand that approval of a qualification by Signature does not guarantee that it will be funded by public funding bodies
- Can confirm that the assessment process will be fair, open and free from bias and all reasonable steps are taken to guard against fraudulent claims for certification.
- Can confirm that they agree to provide Signature and our regulatory authority with access to premises, people and records.
  - Signature may visit any centre conducting assessments.
  - Compliance with signature and QCF requirements may be monitored on a planned or unplanned basis

- Will co operate with Signatures monitoring activities
- Understand the roles and responsibilities of the staff in the centre
- Can confirm that Signature will be notified of any changes, which put at risk the centres ability to meet centre approval
- Will monitor the approval and accreditation period for all qualifications and seek re approval when required
- Will retain evidence of learners work, records of assessment and Internal verification records for a minimum period of one year following learner certification and that these comply with Data Protection legislation.
- Will have processes in place in relation to filmed material to protect young and vulnerable people
- Will comply with Signature terms and conditions for payment of invoices
- Understand that if quality is not maintained centre approval may be withdrawn.
- Will support students in the event of centre closure.
- Understand that Signature has the right to refuse approval without giving reasons for their decision
- Can confirm that the centre has not been previously rejected or been withdrawn from centre recognition with any awarding body or if you have any issues of non compliance or malpractice
- Understand that sanctions may apply to centres who do not comply with these regulations may be subject to sanctions.
- Can confirm that the centre has read the guidance on the roles and responsibilities in delivering Signature qualifications and will comply with us to meet the [Conditions of Recognition](#)