

14-16 FAQ's

With regards to the on-line tests, are you able to advise how many tests are required and if resits are 'free' of charge?

There is only one unit in the qualification which requires a single on-line test; the remaining units are internally marked assignments which is then sampled by the VTCT examinations team for moderation.

- There is a resit fee of £15.00 per assessment.

If a learner re-sits a unit and achieves a lower grade, which grade will stand?

We will always take the highest grade that the learner has achieved and use this towards their overall grade.

Can you advise what platform the on-line tests are run on?

The on-line testing is run through your internet browser and therefore the requirements are Internet Explorer Ver.8 or above, or Firefox/Chrome, and a stable internet connection.

Will this qualification be available as an e-portfolio or is it not appropriate for this qualification?

As there is no evidence to gather, nor competence, there is no intention to put this onto a portfolio.

How many attempts can a learner have at each unit?

For the external exam learners are only permitted to take 1 re-sit in the lifetime of the qualification. For the internal assignments learners can attempt each unit up to two times every academic year (Jan, May & Oct). The assignment brief will change annually therefore a learner can do two further re-sits in the following year. Learners need to pass both mandatory units and two optional units to achieve the qualification.

What happens if the learner fails the external exam twice?

The learner will need to be re-registered on the qualification. The process for this is exactly the same as when the initial registration took place, and you will have to pay the registration fee again. Any assignment units that the learners have achieved a pass or higher grade for, will be automatically carried over to the new registration so they will not need to complete these assignments again.

Can an initial submission be made in the October series?

No, this is a re-sit only window. For assignments, this window will only be available if an assignment has been submitted the previous January or May series, in the same academic year. For the UV21578 exam, a first sitting is still required, although this could be from a previous academic year also.

How do we set up schedules in the October series?

Send an email to: exams@vtct.org.uk with the details: learner names and the unit you wish them to be scheduled for. If you are requesting an exam schedule to be set up, please also include the date and time that you would like the schedule set for, and also if you would like a specific password set up in the schedule.

Can we re-submit an assignment in a new academic year?

No, assignments are bound by each academic year and the Assignment Brief changes each year. Under no circumstances can we accept an assignment from a previous academic year, so it is important to ensure you are using the correct brief (check in the qualification resources on the Linx2 section of our website. An Exams Officer login can access this).

Do students have to choose immediately which options they want to take?

No, the options can be chosen at the appropriate time within the programme for the centre.

Can this qualification be delivered by a college in a school?

Yes

Do we need to be fully qualified in hair and beauty/sport/hospitality and catering to run this qualification, and to what level?

There is no formal requirement to be fully trained in all areas, however, tutors will struggle with delivery of some of the content if a strong grounding in the sector is not present.

Do we need to employ qualified assessors and verifiers?

No, this qualification is examined and moderated. There is no real practical competence-based assessment, therefore VTCT do not require staff to hold these qualifications, although they may be beneficial.

Are the new resources available yet?

Yes, they are now available on the VTCT website in the document section of AM20530 or in the AM20530 resources on linx2.

Can we run the new qualification as a one-year programme?

Yes

Are the assignment briefs available and if so where are they?

The assignment briefs are available under Linx2Achieve – AM20530 resources. Only Exams Officers will have the right level of access to download these. If further logins are required please contact linx2help@vtct.org.uk.

Exam paper access

The exam papers are closed due to their nature – GCSE performance points. There will be no access to them prior to learners sitting the exam. There is currently a mock paper available through Linx2Achieve – AM20530 resources. The exam can be taken either online or a paper version. VTCT does not advocate teaching to any exam papers as they are always subject to change.

Can we schedule the exam paper online now?

Yes, providing you make the entry before the specified deadline in our AM20530 Key Dates document.

What is the external exam paper pass mark?

(Please note: these are 'rough' boundaries that are subject to change from series to series)

Pass - 40 – 59 %

Merit - 60 – 79 %

Distinction - 80 % and above

When is the final point that assignments can be worked on?

Assignments can be worked on up until they are submitted in a window. Final dates for submission can be found on the Key Dates document.

How are assessments submitted?

All submissions for this qualification are to be electronic, click [here](#) for the guidance document. Students can produce handwritten work, which can be scanned and photographs can be taken of mood boards etc in order to upload them to their electronic files. All submissions must be uploaded by the final date for internal assessments as stated on the Key Dates document.

How are the assessments marked?

All submission are required to be both internally marked and internally moderated before the 'Last date for receipt of internally marked assessments' date stated on the Key Dates document. If you need any assistance on the marking process please click [here](#).

What sampling will take place?

As this falls into our 'G' qualifications portfolio, there is no EV requirement. VTCT requires centres to upload evidence for each learner for each unit.

What sampling should the centre undertake?

All assignment work needs to be marked within your centre. On top of this, you are also required to moderate a portion of this work, in line with your centre's sampling strategy. You decide this sample, VTCT advise that you look across different markers/sites/units/grades to ensure the most effective possible sampling is carried out.

What is the comparability to GCSE grades?

Performance points	GCSE grade	AM20530 grade
58	A*	D*
52	A	D
46	B	M
40	C	P

Can I get feedback on how my learners assignments?

Yes, the 'Assignment Feedback' report can be accessed on the E-Testing system. Once logged in, drop down 'Reports' and click on 'Assignment Feedback' (please note, this will only be available on an Exams Officer login).

Are learners permitted to work on their assignments at home?

No, this is not allowed as this is a controlled assessment. All work must be done under supervision. Please refer to the Specification document for more information about Assessment Controls.

Can learners work in pairs or groups on any of the assignment work?

No, this is not allowed. All work must be completed by the individual learner, the work handed in for assessment must be their own.

What can I do if I am not satisfied with the grade my learner has received?

If you would like your learner's exam/assignment re-marked, you can use our Enquiry About Results (EARs) service. There is an EARs form on our AM20530 resources page, and you need to fill out one form per learner.

There is a £15.00 charge, per EAR, although this charge will be credited/cancelled if your EAR is successful in changing the learner's grade. This process can take up to 14 days to complete.

If my learner does not pass all four units, what can I do?

It is not possible to claim a partial/unit certificate for the 14-16 qualifications that we offer. The only option is to re-sit the failed units until at least a pass is achieved in all four units.