

NVQ – A successful alternative pathway

Juliet Park

Achievable

- No exam!
- Small, manageable, predictable assessments
- Pupils can use reference materials
- Pupils can have another go
- Feedback guides pupils
- Pastoral environment

Flexible

- Teachers set assessments times
- Pupils do not have to do all four units
- Can be linked to other curriculum areas
- Small manageable assessments
- Can mix levels
- Can do different levels in different years

Meets the government agenda!

- Inclusive
- Achievable
- Vocational
- Cross curricular
- Meaningful learning
- Develops life skills
- Re-addresses skills shortage



National
Curriculum

Other Features of NVO

- Focus is not just on languages
- Purposeful & meaningful
- Fun and practical
- Cross-curricular - ICT & business
- Perception of languages as a skill changes

Not just language skills

- Independence
- Creativity
- Reflection
- Team work
- Self-management
- Communication



National
Curriculum

Golden Ticket

- Don't need to be fluent
- Don't need to be super intelligent
- C.V competitive edge
- More opportunities
- More money
- Transferable skill

But everyone speaks English don't they?

- 80% of global population doesn't speak English
- 94% doesn't speak English as their first language
- 20% of UK companies lose business because they couldn't speak the language or understand the culture of their customers



Sir Digby Jones Director CBI

“Youngsters need to be equipped with the skills to make their way in the competitive globalised economy of the 21st Century”



Sir Trevor McDonald

“Young people
must learn a
language and the
sooner they do it
the better”

What is an NVQ worth?

- QCA approved qualification
- Units carry points for performance tables:
 - Level 1 = 7 points per unit
 - Level 2 = 12 points per unit

What do the units add up to?

- 4 level 1 units x 7 points = 28
- 4 level 2 units x 12 points = 48
- or combined: -
 - 1 level 1 unit x 7 points = 7 +
 - 3 level 2 units x 12 points = 36 = 43

Comparing NVQ to GCSE in points

NVQ	Points	GCSE
	58	A*
	52	A
	→	
Level 2	46	B
	→	
Level 1 & 2	40	C
	34	D
	28	E
Level 1	→	
	22	F

Any Combination

- In year 9 at level 1
- In year 10 & 11 at level 2
- In year 11 at level 2 after early entry GCSE
- In year 10 & 11 at level 1 in 2 different languages
- In year 10, one unit at level 1 and then 3 units at level 2 through to end of year 11

Topic Areas

- Introductions
- Hosting visitors
- Reservations and appointments
- Travel Arrangements
- Eating out
- Communications



	Progression level 1	2
	Level 1	Level 2
NC levels	3-5	6+
Vocabulary Language	Familiar Narrow	Unpredictable Wider common alternatives
Grammar	Set phrases Pos/Neg, Qs/As Very simple past, present, future Feelings, preferences Simple link words	Understand & use grammar Simple past, present, future Views, opinions Links words: because, however Conditional Compound

Yewlands Case Study



- 64 year x 9 pupils
- Level 1 NVQ German
- Sense of early achievement
- Business Visits
- Raises awareness and aspirations
- Good preparation for key stage 4

- Increased uptake and results
 - 98% pass level 1
 - doubled intake in 2007
 - tripling intake in 2008



Visits to local businesses



- Learn about company
- Practise language skills
- Meet linguists
- Learn how languages applied to workplace





Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme



Overseas Work Experience



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme



Yewlands Pilot Project

The first ever

NVQ based year 10 Work Experience Trip Overseas



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme



9 average ability pupils

Limited life experiences

1 week confidence building

1 week in businesses



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme



Week one: Confidence Building

Treasure hunt

Interviews

Fact finding: tickets, times

Cultural excursions

Presentations

NVQ Assessments



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme



Week two: Work Placements

3 hours per day

Matched placement to pupil

Set tasks & Activities (WPTK)

Assessments (NVQ level 2)

Europass accreditation

Testimonials

- I learnt to become independent and how to be myself **Samuel**
- It has been a life changing experience for him. He used to be so withdrawn but now I can't begin to describe how different he is since he came back. **Samuel's mum**
- Parts of the trip were very difficult but we all coped really well, got more confident and closer as friends **Kelsey**
- I have a better understanding of other people and their culture **Keeley**
- It was an enjoyable experience and really helped me with my German **Samantha**
- It was all good! **Pria**



Useful Links

- **Leonardo Funding**
<http://www.leonardo.org.uk/>
- **Europass accreditation**
<http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/europass/home/hornav/Introduction/navigate.action>
- **Work placement language toolkit**
<http://www.cilt.org.uk/14to19/resources.htm>

For more information & free
resources contact:



Juliet.park@ntlworld.com

www.ilanguages.co.uk