

Dear Steve

As a college and training establishment we would ask if you could develop some courses, which are QCF aligned, based on the new Level 2 and 3 NVQ in plumbing and heating, but without the work based evidence requirement. As a college this would keep down development of course costs and time also to prepare for schemes.

At our college we have cohorts of learners who are in the 16-18 and the over 19 age range and are on full time courses. These number approximately 60 learners mainly concentrating on the 16-18 school leaver age range. All of these learners want to enter the plumbing industry, but unfortunately are unable to as they cannot find a position with a plumbing company.

Previously there was the Technical Certificate which gave these cohorts the same skills as the work based learners, but without the competencies requirement of the NVQ. On completion of the technical certificate learners have gone on to find employment within the plumbing industry and completed their NVQ which would then enable them to progress onto a Level 3 Plumbing Foundation or Full NVQ diploma in plumbing and heating qualification.

For learners who are trying to enter the industry now it is becoming more difficult as there are few employment opportunities around for them and we get many enquiries about our courses and have to turn away many due to the fact that we cannot offer a Technical Certificate as before.

Thank you for taking time to read this letter

Yours Faithfully

*Barry Spick*

Curriculum Leader (Plumbing and Gas)

