

FAQ Level 3 Food Science and Nutrition: New

First award 2017

1. Unit 1 External assessment

Will there be more sample papers to use before September 2016?

Unfortunately WJEC will not produce any additional Sample Assessment Materials for the examination. Some questions currently included on past WJEC GCE and GCSE food papers can be used as a starting point for centres until past papers become available. The ACs for the specification could also be used for centres to compile questions. A question bank facility will also be made available when there are papers in the system.*

**available to download from the secure website.*

2. Unit 1 Internal assessment

Is the 3 and a half hour practical session mandatory as timetabling could be difficult?

Yes, it states on page 3 of the Model assignment that the time allowance for the practical session is 3 ½ hours. If centres do not accommodate this control they will be doing their learners a dis-service, as having less time will diminish the skills that can be displayed. Having a mandatory 3 hour session for the new GCSE should support the request for this to continue post KS4.

3. Unit 2 External assessment

Having this assessment in May with three weeks to complete will be difficult with revision programmes for each subject and so close to the A level exams, is this timing reviewable?

As this is an externally assessed unit it has to take place during the summer examinations series. It will be released on May 1st and centres will need to ensure the learners have 8 hours under controlled conditions to complete the assessment prior to the evidence being sent to WJEC for marking. It is in effect the second examination, thus it recommended the time for this is added to the school examination calendar.

Task 1: Produce a food safety resource – can learners have images saved from the internet to use for the staff handbook/PowerPoints?

The guidance to candidates states that

- *You can use class notes that are approved by your tutor, but not text books*
- *You **cannot** access the Internet*
- *You can use ICT software*

Thus if images were saved within class notes that the teacher has approved, the learners would be able to import them into their final evidence.

4. Optional Units

Unit 3 and Unit 4 – optional units internally assessed

Is there are word count for these assessments?

At Level 3 learners need be able to produce and apply evidence pertinent to the task, as oppose to writing a set number of words, however it would be appropriate to base word count on approx. 400 for every hour spent on the task.

Unit 3: 12 hours 3,500 - 4,000

Unit 4: 14 hours 4,000-5,000

Generic questions

1. Can additional exemplars be made available?

All the exemplars from the QCF CPD sessions (pre Autumn 2015) are suitable to further support teachers and learners understanding of the requirements of this specification.

There are also additional exemplars available on the secure website.

Exemplars will be made available at the end of every series and annual face to face CPD sessions will focus on the marking of exemplars.

2. Do we produce our own assessments? Will there be any more to choose from other than the SAMS / model assignments?

The "model" assessments on the secure website are the live assessments that the learners need to undertake. However it would be applicable for centres to write their own to suit the needs of the learner and the environment in which they live, as long as these are quality checked.

WJEC will be publishing additional model assignments for the internally assessed units in due course so that centres have a choice.

NB. Learners should not have access to the model assignments' until they are ready to undertake them. The sample scenarios in the Teachers guide were intended to be the practice ones.

3. Would there be an opportunity to do an online marking exercise for a controlled assessment to see centres are marking correctly?

WJEC prides itself on running face to face sessions to support the marking of assessments, but this is something that may be explored in the future if demand necessitates more on-line training provision.

4. How do we work out the final Diploma grade?

The marks/points from each unit are converted to UMS marks and the grade will be awarded as shown on page 12 of the Specification

Unit Number	Unit Title	Assessment	Total UMS mark	UMS grade boundaries		
				D	M	P
1	Meeting Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups	Internal	100	80	60	40
		External	100	80	60	40
2	Ensuring Food is Safe to Eat	External	100	80	60	40
3	Experimenting to Solve Food Production Problems	Internal	100	80	60	40
4	Current Issues in Food Science and Nutrition	Internal	100	80	60	40

5. Will the universities recognise this course?

The qualification attracts UCAS and performance points, thus it will count within learners portfolio when applying for Higher Education places.

Distinction - 140 points*

Distinction – 120 points

Merit – 80 points

Pass – 40 points

The Certificate in Food Science and Nutrition will receive half of these points.

Delivery concerns for centres delivering from September 2015

(In relation to the change of provision from QCF level 3 Food Science and Nutrition to Level 3 Food Science and Nutrition (new) first award 2017)

If Centres have started the new specification in September 2015 can they submit Units 2 and 3 or 4 May 2016 (if they know for certain that the learners are staying on into year 13) then run Unit 1 in year 13 with learners sitting the examination summer 2017?

The content delivery could be followed in this way but there will be no assessment opportunities for any units until summer 2017. Internal assessments can be completed in Year 12 but they will need to be stored securely then sent for external moderation in May 2017.

There is no issue for centres starting the new course in Summer 2016 as there will be opportunities for both internal and external assessments to be submitted for accreditation in Summer 2017.

Delivery from summer 2016

One possible route would be:

Year 12 Learners study for the Certificate:

- (i) complete the internal assessment which will be moderated May 15 2017
- (ii) sit the written external assessment Summer 2017
(if anyone then wants to cash in the qualification there is no issue)

Year 13 Learners study for the Diploma:

- (i) complete the internal assessment for the chosen optional unit which will be moderated May 15 2018
- (ii) complete the external assessment (8 hours) May 2018, which will be marked by WJEC.