

Down High School

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Mike Neale
Subject Officer
WJEC
245 Western Avenue,
Cardiff CF5 2YX

[25 August 2017]

Dear Mike

**Re WJEC Level 3 Applied Certificate in Tourism
WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Tourism**

I am writing this letter in support of:

603/0825/4 - WJEC Level 3 Applied Certificate in Tourism

603/0826/6 - WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Tourism

Down High School currently follows the WJEC Travel and Tourism A-Level qualification, which discontinues in 2018. It is our intention to pursue the new Level qualification from September 2017. Having explored this specification and alternative ones, I can confirm that these qualifications appropriately assess the skills, knowledge and understanding of tourism at Level 3. This is a view shared by the teachers in Geography Department who currently deliver the A-Level course.

The qualifications have been designed to give a clear understanding of the nature of the tourism industry and provide opportunities for candidates to develop the skills and knowledge required as they progress from Certificate to Diploma. The courses allow our staff and students to continue to engage positively with employers in Northern Ireland such as the Merchant Hotel, Hastings Group and Belfast City Airport. With travel and hospitality as one of the few growth areas in Northern Ireland, this course will allow students to access higher education and university courses.

The Level 3 Certificate and Diploma in Tourism qualifications are a firm basis for further study at higher level including degree, vocational courses and work-based training. Given the fact that Down High School welcomes significant numbers of pupils from local 11-16 schools into our Sixth Form, a broad and balanced curriculum is essential and the certificate and diploma qualifications help to enable this. In particular, the inclusion of event and itinerary planning within the Diploma course provides an insight into content that is relevant to courses and opportunities relating to events management and other associated industries.

These qualifications would be accepted alongside other qualifications of the same level offered at Down High School such as:

- 🎬 Health and Social Care (Applied A-Level)
- 🎬 Moving Image Art (Applied A-Level)
- 🎬 BTEC Engineering
- 🎬 BTEC Sport
- 🎬 BTEC ICT

I fully support the development of this qualification and so do our students and the wider community.

Yours sincerely

Mr Ken Dawson

[Deputy Principal, Down High School Downpatrick]