

Core and Key Skill Equivalences

SQA and QCA have established the following tables of equivalent development in respect of the Core Skills and Key Skills.

TABLE OF EQUIVALENCES
SQA Core Skills,
QCA/CCEA/ACCAC Key Skills

Table 1 Areas covered by Key Skills, and the similar areas covered by Core Skills

Key Skills	Core Skills
Communication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral Communication • Written Communication • Reading 	Communication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral Communication • Written Communication
Application of Number <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpreting Information • Carrying Out Calculations • Interpreting Results and Presenting Findings 	Numeracy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using Graphical Information • Using Number skills
Information Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finding and Selecting Information • Developing Information • Presenting Information 	Information Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operate the Computer • Find Information • Use Software to Develop Information
Problem Solving <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify Problems • Considering Solutions • Reviewing and Evaluating Outcomes 	Problem Solving <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical Thinking • Planning and Organising • Reviewing and Evaluating
Working with Others <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning the Work • Working to Identified Objectives • Reviewing Progress 	Working with Others <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysing and Preparing • Planning and Negotiating • Working Together • Checking and Evaluating
Improving Own Learning and Performance	Achievement of both Working with Others and Problem Solving, at lower level should they differ.
Personal Skills Development level 5	Under development

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Table 2 shows the level of achievement

Achievement in the Key Skill listed on the left-hand side of the following table can be taken to show equivalent development of the Core Skill on the right-hand side of the table and vice versa.

Table 2 Level of development of Key Skill compared to Core Skill

Key Skills	Core Skills
Level 3	Higher (SCQF Level 6)
Level 2	Intermediate 2 (SCQF Level 5)
Level 1	Intermediate 1 (SCQF Level 4)
Adult basic skills entry level 3	Access 3 (SCQF Level 3)
Adult basic skills entry level 2	Access 2 (SCQF Level 2)
Adult basic skills entry level 1	There is currently no match at this level

The list at table 2 has been produced to assist those who need to evaluate prior achievement of Core Skills, and how this relates to Key Skills OR prior achievement of Key Skills and how this relates to Core Skills. The list is for use only to show where candidates registered on a programme that requires Core or Key Skills achievement have already covered development that therefore does not need to be covered again. It does not provide a means of providing certification for these equivalent qualifications, nor does it provide a choice of qualifications to aim for in programmes where specific certification in Core or Key skills is a requirement.



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