



**ETC Awards Limited**

Coronavirus (COVID 19) Statement

April 2020

## COVID 19 Quality Assurance Strategy 2020

This strategy has been developed to deal with the current global situation and specifically the direction from the UK Government and in turn the Regulator. Ofqual have held various webinars to support AOs in establishing where it may be appropriate to adjust either assessment methodology or quality assurance activity. We are in a strong position in that we do not have 'tested' or 'examined' qualifications and all of our assessment strategies are written with the flexibility to underpin all alternative methods of assessment.

This document should still be read and applied in conjunction with related documents:

- Centre Sampling Matrix
- Risk Ratings 2018
- ETA Risk Management Policy 2018
- Continuous Sampling Strategy

It established our 'emergency' principles and practices by which EQAs will plan and undertake their ongoing sampling activity both in line with regulatory requirements and in partnership with our centres specific alternative arrangements.

We will continue to operate a continuous sampling strategy in line with established current policy. This will however be undertaken, where possible, remotely using alternative mediums and in collaboration with the centre.

A schedule for each centre as appropriate to their regular activity will be drafted and issued weekly. It will be reviewed daily and in-line with Government recommendations, by the Lead EQA and the Solutions & Compliance Manager. Should there be a need for amendment, this will be communicated immediately to the parties concerned.

Our overall strategy will be subject to continual review and where necessary amended in line with Government and Regulatory requirements.

Our regulators have agreed that as a result of the flexibility in our assessment methodologies and our ability to conduct remote EQA activities, we are not required to generate Event Notifications as our alternative activity maintains compliance within our existing, robust and compliant practice.

The centre approval visits planned for the coming weeks and any re-approvals scheduled will now be undertaken via GoTomeeting and will be completed, recorded and stored using the existing methodology. Should there be a need to physically review documentation or facilities, this will be followed up once we are free to travel and engage on a face to face basis again.

In addition to our regular flexible approach, we are in a position to undertake all standard quality assurance activity remotely and via on-line mediums in support of and as appropriate to on-line delivery. This is in line with the regulatory instruction to ensure that where possible, all learners who would have achieved between March and July 2020, do achieve under, 'calculate, adapt, delay.' We maintain a strong ability to work with our centres to ensure we will adapt wherever possible to underpin learner achievement in a timely manner.

This unprecedented situation is evolving quickly and as an organisation we will continue to review our policies, procedures and practice in line with Government and Regulatory guidance to ensure continued compliance and the award of qualification continues to be delivered in full compliance.

Please contact us directly if you have any specific questions or need further assistance.