

Level 3 Update

NEON (Jan 2023)

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T Levels

Updates

In summer 2022, UCAS worked with the DfE to award **indicative UCAS tariff points** to **recognise partial achievement** of the T Level (i.e. Core + placement). TBC on arrangements for 2023 onwards.

DfE have updated the **work placement requirements** to allow up to 20% to be delivered virtually for some pathways (accounting; digital; finance; legal services; management and administration; and media, broadcast and production).

From 2023, those schools/colleges with other **Ofsted ratings**, or no rating can offer Wave 1 and 2 T Level subjects only. (Previously requirement was for those rated Good/Outstanding only.)

T Level timeline

2020	Pathways available in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Construction (Design, Surveying & Planning)• Digital (Digital Production, Design & Development)• Education & Childcare
2021	Full routes available in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Digital• Construction• Health & Science
2022	Full routes available in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business & Administration• Engineering & Manufacturing Pathways available in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Legal, Finance & Accounting (Finance & Accounting)
2023	Full routes available in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Legal, Finance & Accounting (Legal Services)• Hair, beauty & aesthetics• Hospitality & Catering• Creative Design Pathways available in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agriculture, Environment & Animal Care
2024	Full route available in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agriculture, Environment & Animal Care All routes/pathways available this year.

HEI Recognition & Student Progression

- Over 120 HEIs now recognise one/more T Levels - [DFE List](#).
- Some HEIs have additional requirements: for example a minority specifying A Level maths for Civil Engineering, or Computer Science; usually Level 2 Maths (between grade 4 and 7) for Accounting and Finance degrees.
- UCAS confirmed approx. 475 T Level students made applications for 2022.
- 370 UCAS students accepted in 2022, 71% of the cohort that applied to HE.

Results (from DfE website)

Wave 1 cohort that started in 2020, completed in 2022, in pathways in:

- Construction -Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction
- Digital - Digital Production, Design and Development
- Education & Childcare

Summary

- 1029 learners received results.
- 92.2% achieved Pass or above on their T Level.
- 31.9% achieved a Distinction. 2.7% achieved a Distinction *.
- 99.5% achieved E or above on their Core component.
- 97.5% achieved a Pass or above on their Occupational Specialism.
- 94% completed an industry placement.

Further information

[DfE's T Level Action Plan 2020](#)

[DfE's T Level Action Plan 2021](#)

[T Level Provisional Results](#)

[DfE's resources for HEIs](#)

[Providers approved to run T Levels](#)

[Way to find nearest T Level provider](#)



Level 3 Reform

Context

- In **July 2021** DfE published the outcomes to the Level 3 consultation and the government's response. 86% of respondents disagreed with the proposal to defund qualifications that overlapped with the new T Levels.
- In **Nov 2021**, Nadhim Zahawi announced a one year delay to the reform programme.
- **April 2022** In a letter to the House of Lords, Nadhim Zahawi confirmed the place of BTECs/AGs alongside A Levels and T Levels and that less than half would be defunded through the reform.
- **Oct 2022** DfE publish list of qualifications to be defunded from 2024/25 in the first phase, including some of the BTEC Nationals in Construction (1/2/3 A Level equivalent) and Childcare (2 & 3 A Level equivalent).
- **Jan 2023** DfE publish 'necessity' criteria for Level 3 vocational qualifications to be funded from 2025 onwards. Whether there is an existing A Level or T Level will heavily influence the place of other vocational qualifications (note a few exemptions exist).

Important to note, there are **two** aspects to the reform:

- 1) Defunding of some existing qualifications
- 2) Reapproval process for qualifications to be funded from 2025 onwards.

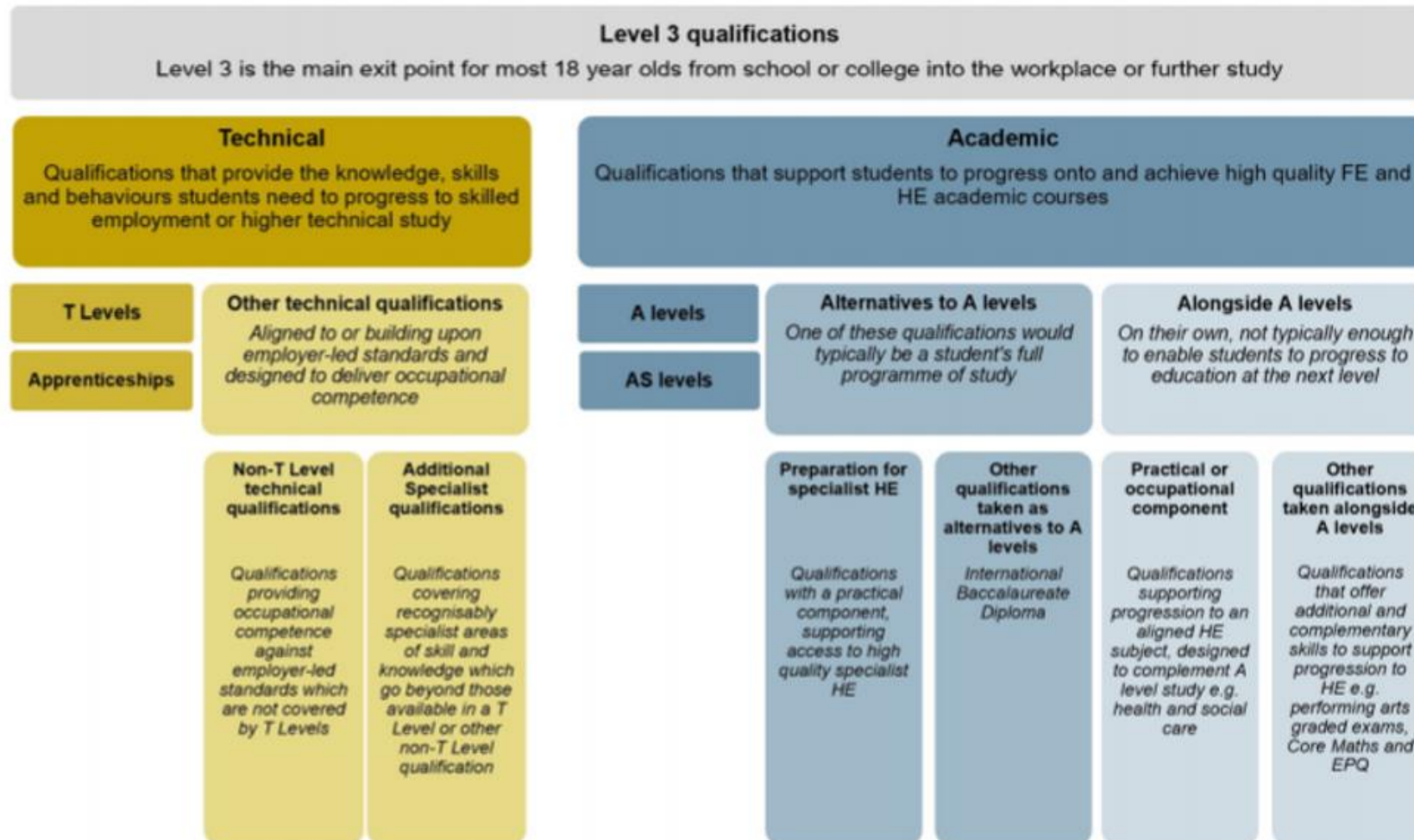
DfE timeline

- Technical qualifications that overlap with T Levels are defunded for 16-19 year olds (funding may be retained for adults)
- First introduction of new, reformed technical and academic qualifications (including both those for 16-19 year olds and adults)
- All remaining qualifications in this route that have not been reapproved for funding are defunded

T Level Wave	Occupational routes	Academic years							
		2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27		
Wave 1 and 2	Digital – qualifications delivering against employer-led Standards								
	Digital – specialist and cross-cutting skills qualifications								
	Construction								
	Education and childcare								
	Health and science								
Wave 3 and 4	Engineering and manufacturing								
	Legal, finance and accounting								
	Business and administration								
	Agriculture, environmental and animal care								
	Catering and hospitality								
	Hair and beauty								
	Creative and design								
Routes not covered by T Levels	E.g. Care services								
	E.g. Protective services								
	E.g. Sales, marketing and procurement								
	E.g. Transport and logistics								
Academic subjects not linked to occupational routes	E.g. Performing and creative arts								
	E.g. Sports science								

DfE's new Level 3 qualification landscape

Figure 1: Visual representation of the proposed 16 to 19 level 3 landscape



DfE Impact Assessment

June 2021

- DfE estimate that 43% of non A Level enrolments will be impacted by these reforms.
- DfE Impact Assessment highlights a risk that some of these students may no longer be able to achieve Level 3 as a result of these reforms (estimating 3-4%, yet recognising the “uncertainty” of this estimate). Many consultation respondents indicated this estimate was “underestimated” in their view.
- Furthermore that there will be a disproportionate impact on specific student groups, including those from an Asian ethnic background, males, those with SEN and those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

May 2022

- Students from the following groups may be slightly more impacted than outlined in the initial consultation: female students; those from a white ethnic background; those with SEN; those from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Link to updated [Equalities Impact Assessment](#).

DfE will update equalities impact assessment, to take account of any additional impacts as they further develop the policy.

Protect Student Choice campaign

Led by Sixth Form College Association (SFCA) in collaboration with 29 other partners.

HE partners include:

- Universities UK
- Mission groups: University Alliance; MillionPlus Group; GuildHE
- Widening participation groups: NEON, London Higher, Linking London
- UVAC
- Council of Deans of Health

Link to [campaign website](#).



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