

The UK's leading credit-based Awarding Body

NOCN is the leading credit-based Awarding body in the UK. There are 2,500 centres nationally offering NOCN qualifications, which collectively certificate over 800,000 successful learners every year.

OCN NI has the experience and expertise to offer support and advice on the use of all NOCN qualifications including training in the assessment of credit and internal quality assurance.

To find out more

For more information about what Open College Network Northern Ireland can offer, please contact a member of our Business Development Team.

Open College Network Northern Ireland
1st Floor, Unit 17
Pilot's View
Heron Road
Sydenham Business Park
Belfast BT3 9LE
Telephone: 028 9046 3990
Fax: 028 9046 0573
Web: www.ocnni.org.uk
Email: info@ocnni.org.uk

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Bridge to Essential Skills in ICT



**Delivering Entry Level IT units as
a bridge to Essential Skills in ICT**



Information for
**Learning Providers in
Northern Ireland**

The **Diversity** of Learning

How does it work?

The **Bridge to Essential Skills in ICT** offers learners the opportunity to get a taster into using ICT systems via a combination of relevant units whilst at the same time achieving a National Qualification at Entry Level. The OCN Entry Level ITQ units endorsed by the sector skills council, e-skills, have been mapped against the ICT Essential Skills requirements and provide learners with a stepping stone to Level 1.

The combination of IT units focus on delivering an introduction to the skills that learners and employers really need and cover the core range of everyday IT user skills such as spreadsheets, word-processing, Email and Text Messaging.

What are the units?

The Entry Level ITQ units sit within our Progression Qualifications which are on the QCA Qualifications and Credit Framework and provide learners with the opportunities to develop skills in the vocational area of ICT.

COURSE TITLE: **Bridge to Essential Skills in ICT**

Unit title	Credit Value	Unit Reference No.
Introduction to Using ICT Systems	3	L/500/5026
Introduction to Selecting Information using the Internet	1	K/500/5020
Introduction to Using Email and Text Messaging	1	M/500/5021
Introduction to Using Spreadsheet Software	1	A/500/5023
Introduction to Using Word Processing Software	1	J/500/5025

QUALIFICATION ENTITLEMENT: ENTRY LEVEL AWARD IN PROGRESSION (ENTRY 3) (500/1894/2)

How do I access them?

The Entry Level units are available to download via our website and can be accessed by visiting <http://www.ocni.org.uk>

OCN NI have developed an accompanying support pack in the form of learner assessment workbooks, which can also be accessed via our website.

What are the benefits?

- **Nationally Recognised Qualification;** the combination of ITQ Entry Level units within the Bridge to Essential Skills in ICT also enable learners to achieve a National (QCF) Qualification – NOCN Entry Level Award in Progression.
- **Based on recognised standards;** mapped to the National Occupational Standards for IT Users.
- **Backed by Employers;** the Sector Skills agreement for IT was developed collaboratively by employers in response to projected skills gaps.
- **Supported by Policy;** the units are on the National Database of Accredited Qualifications (NDAQ) therefore eligible for DEL funding.
- **Customised;** the combination of units enable learners to achieve an introduction to ICT in bite sized chunks, tailored to Essential Skills needs.
- **Adaptable assessment;** assessors do not need to have any additional qualifications beyond those normally required by OCN to assess achievement in this subject area.

