



Careers at OCN
External Assessment Co-Ordinator

ocnni.org.uk

Job Title: External Assessment Co-ordinator

Responsible to: The Head of Compliance and Audit

Context

The Open College Network Northern Ireland (OCN NI) is a UK recognised Awarding Body based in Northern Ireland. We are regulated by CCEA Regulation to develop and award regulated professional and technical (vocational) qualifications from Entry Level up to and including Level 5 across all sector areas. In addition, OCN NI are also regulated by Ofqual to award similar qualifications in England.

Role Purpose

Working within the Compliance & Audit Team, the External Assessment Co-ordinator will help support the development and evaluation of external assessments in line with regulatory requirements under the General Conditions of Recognition. The External Assessment co-ordinator, will co-ordinate the production, quality assurance, and evaluation of external assessments to ensure they are valid, reliable, and accessible, and that they meet the standards set by ourselves and our regulators. The External co-ordinator will work with internal teams and external partners, including assessment writers, reviewers, centres, and regulatory bodies, as required, to support OCN NI in meeting its objectives.





Main & Key Areas of responsibility

Please review each of the following criteria to ensure you meet the essential criteria for this role.



Major Responsibilities

- Coordinate the design, development, and review of external assessments including examination papers, controlled assessments and online tests.
- Collaborate item writers, reviewers, subject experts, and internal teams to produce high-quality, fair, and fit-for-purpose assessments.
- Oversee and implement robust quality assurance processes, including standardisation, evaluation, and proofing, to maintain accuracy and consistency.
- Safeguard the integrity of assessment materials through secure production, storage, and distribution practices, in compliance with regulatory and organisational requirements.
- . Analyse and monitor assessment performance and use data to drive improvement.
- Drive innovation and enhancement in assessment methodologies.
- Ensure full compliance with Ofqual, CCEA, or other regulatory frameworks, maintaining strong governance and accountability in all assessment activities.
- Maintain accurate and auditable records, ensuring transparency and readiness for regulatory reviews or inspections.
- Contribute to risk management and malpractice investigations, supporting the fair and consistent resolution of issues affecting external assessment integrity.



Health and Safety

- Be aware of the Health and Safety Regulations applicable to the working environment and adhere to same.

Quality Management System

- Ensure compliance with the Company's Quality Management System and ISO 9001 requirements.

Other

- Undertake such training and personal development that is identified by OCN NI through its annual review to ensure your own personal CPD remains current.
- Undertake and assist on other ad hoc projects as and when required.
- Other duties as required by the organization.



Personal Specification

Please review the following personal
specification for this role



Competencies

- Skilled at influencing and inspiring others, encouraging open dialogue and reaching effective consensus.
- Proactive, accountable, and able to take ownership of work.
- Self-motivated, with a proven track record of meeting KPIs and targets.
- Flexibility and adaptability in a fast-paced environment.
- Excellent time management and prioritisation skills.
- Collaboration Skills – Confident in building partnerships, guiding discussions, and overcoming challenges to ensure successful delivery.



Further Information

Duration: The post is a permanent full-time position. Employment will be subject to a probationary period of 6 months to the satisfaction of OCN NI. Performance will be reviewed on an ongoing basis in line with OCN NI's current performance management system.

Salary: Salary range is £37,339 - £44,962. This is a six-point salary scale, with progression opportunities occurring each April.

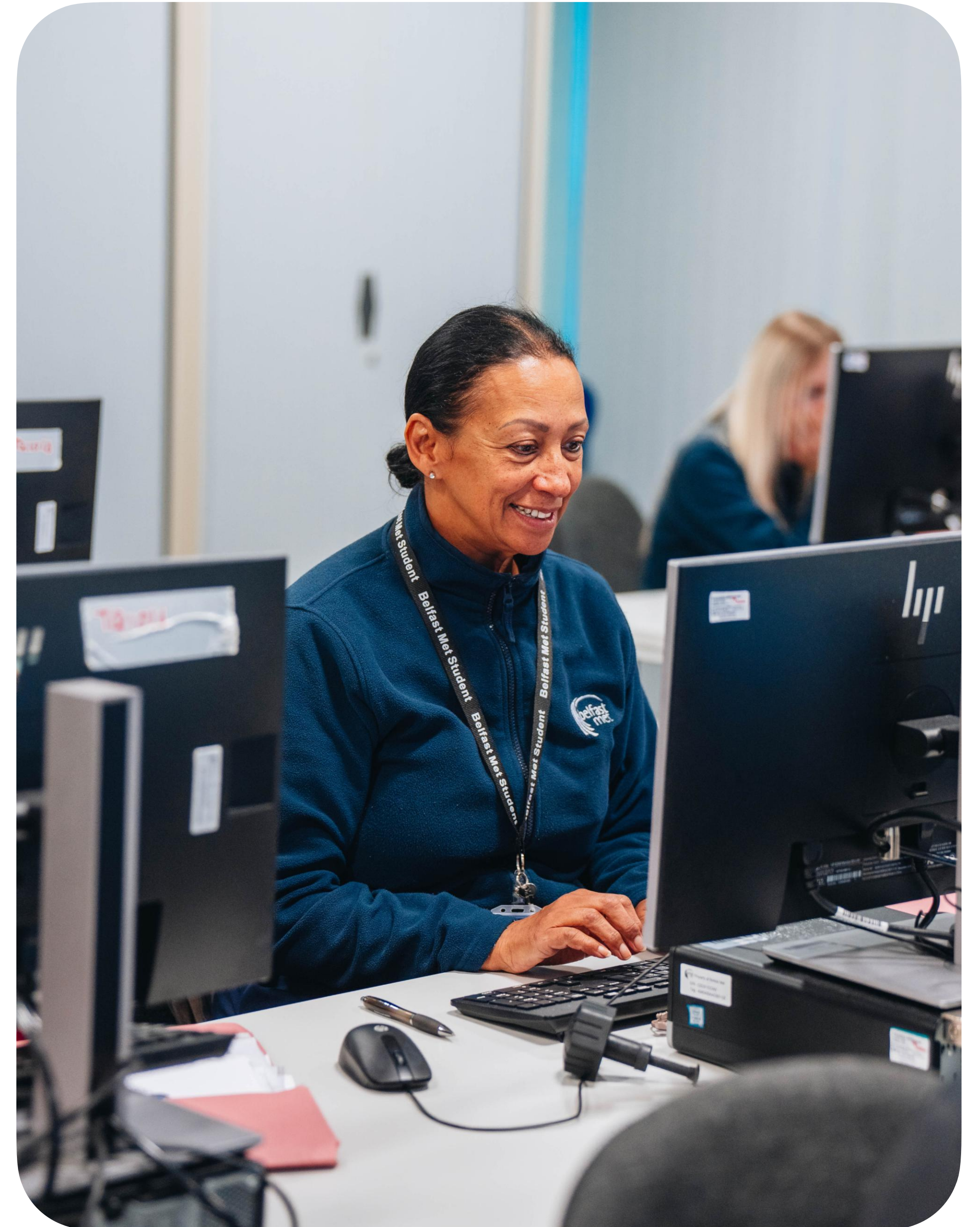
Pension: 9% Employer contribution, 6% Employee contribution.

Location: Sirius House, 10 Heron Road, Belfast, BT3 9LE. Following successful completion of probationary period, an application can be made for hybrid working.

Hours of Work: 35 hours per week (exclusive of lunch breaks). Flexible start/finish times are in operation with core working hours from 10am to 4pm Monday to Friday.

Holidays: Entitlement is 39 days each year inclusive of statutory and public holidays rising to 44 days after 10 years' service. The leave year runs from 1st August to 31st of July.

Note: This document is supplied for information purposes only and does not constitute terms and conditions of employment.





Welcome to OCN

At OCN, we believe that our employees are our greatest asset. We are committed to creating a supportive and rewarding work environment that fosters growth, well-being, and work-life balance.

ocnni.org.uk

Why work with us?

At OCN, we take pride in being Northern Ireland's leading Awarding Organisation. We collaborate with a diverse range of partners, including Further Education Colleges, Schools, Training Organisations, Third Sector Organisations, Health Trusts, and Prisons, to support education and training across various sectors.

OCN NI is a UK-recognised organisation regulated by CCEA Regulation, allowing us to develop and award professional and technical (vocational) qualifications from Entry Level to Level 5 across all industries. Additionally, we are regulated by Ofqual, enabling us to offer similar qualifications in England.

Our commitment to excellence and innovation ensures that our qualifications meet the highest standards, empowering learners and organisations to achieve their goals.

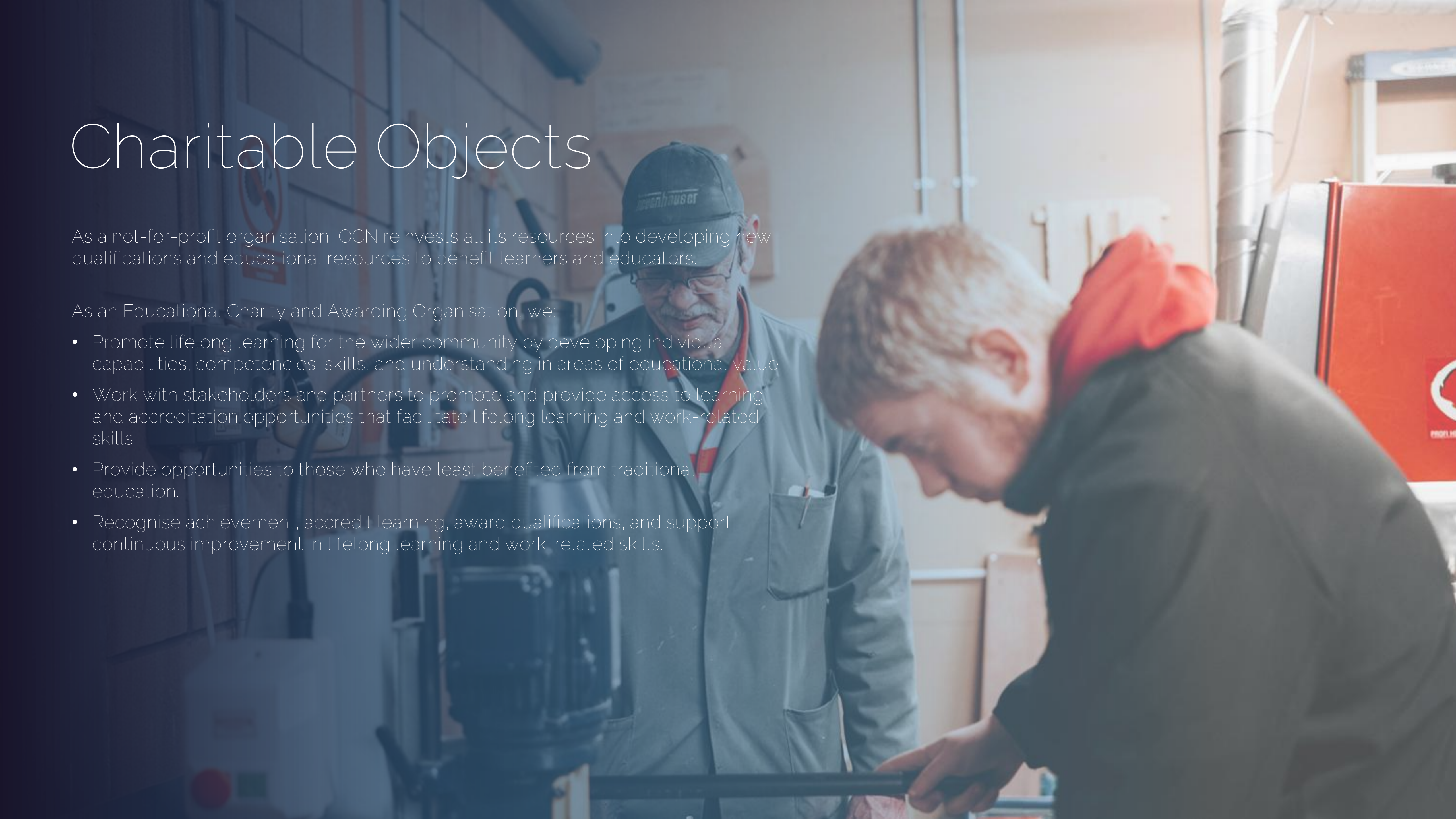


Charitable Objects

As a not-for-profit organisation, OCN reinvests all its resources into developing new qualifications and educational resources to benefit learners and educators.

As an Educational Charity and Awarding Organisation, we:

- Promote lifelong learning for the wider community by developing individual capabilities, competencies, skills, and understanding in areas of educational value.
- Work with stakeholders and partners to promote and provide access to learning and accreditation opportunities that facilitate lifelong learning and work-related skills.
- Provide opportunities to those who have least benefited from traditional education.
- Recognise achievement, accredit learning, award qualifications, and support continuous improvement in lifelong learning and work-related skills.



Giving back to our community

We actively support our centres and learners through funding and recognition initiatives:

Centre Grants: We actively support our centres and learners through funding and recognition initiatives:

Learning Endeavour Awards: We celebrate and reward the dedication of learners across Northern Ireland. These awards honour individuals who have shown exceptional perseverance and commitment to their education.

Our Mission

To develop and award qualifications
which engage, enrich and equip
learners for life.

Our Vision

A successful, inclusive society where
every learner matters.

To achieve our mission and values, we
have identified three strategic priorities:



To be the awarding
organisation of
choice



To promote learning
as a tool for
transformation



To be innovative,
creative and
continuously improve

Our Values

LEARNER CENTRED

Everyone has the right to learn and develop throughout their lives and have that learning recognised and valued.

RESPECT

Everyone is entitled to be valued equally and treated with dignity and respect. We will apply the highest standards of integrity in everything we do.

EXCELLENCE

Everyone has the right to high-quality services which are accessible, valued and responsive to needs. We will hold ourselves to the highest standards of responsible business.

COLLABORATION

The needs of learners are more effectively met by working closely together with our Centres and other stakeholders to seek collaborative partnerships.

Did you know?
*OCN were founded in 1995 and have
awarded over 800k people with
certificates!*

Benefits of Working at OCN

For more information on OCN
Careers, [click here](#).



Employee Assistance Programme

Access to confidential support and resources to help you navigate personal and professional challenges.



9% Employer Pension Contribution

We invest in your future with a generous pension contribution to help you plan for retirement along with 4x your annual salary for life assurance cover



Generous Holiday Allowance

Enjoy 39 days of annual leave, inclusive of bank holidays, with an additional day for each year of service after 5 years, up to a maximum of 30 days.



Flexible Working

Flexible working options available depending on your role, such as hybrid working or part time. Providing flexibility and convenience



Remote Working

Depending on your role, you may have the option to work remotely, providing flexibility and convenience.



Employee Private Health Scheme

Comprehensive health coverage to ensure you and your family are well taken care of.



Health Cash Plan

Get money back on everyday health expenses, including optical, dental, chiropody, and more.



Key Moments Support

We offer a comprehensive range of leave and pay entitlements, including: Enhanced Maternity and Paternity Pay, Parental Leave, Bereavement Leave, Wedding Leave & Company Sick Pay.



Training & Development

Access to ongoing CPD both internally and externally.

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE®

We invest in people Gold

Our staff is valued at OCN, and we are proud of our Investors in People Gold accreditation. Through investment and vision, we have developed tools, processes, and metrics that have allowed our employees to thrive, and we truly understand the value and contribution of our team.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

OCN NI is committed to equality, diversity, and inclusion.

We have an effective EDI strategy that includes a successful EDI-embedded culture, a range of EDI training for all employees, and EDI policies and procedures.

Staff Retention

At OCN, we are proud of the loyalty and dedication of our team. Our average length of service is an impressive 7.5 years, reflecting the supportive, inclusive, and rewarding environment we strive to maintain. Notably, 33% of our staff have been with us for over 10 years, and 21% have served for more than 15 years — a testament to the positive culture and long-term opportunities at OCN.

We recognise and value long service with dedicated appreciation initiatives, acknowledging the ongoing contributions of our team members as they grow their careers with us.



To apply please email the following to careers@ocnni.org.uk

- Your CV
- A detailed covering letter demonstrating how you meet each of the essential criteria and desirable criteria (if applicable).
- OCN NI Monitoring Form

Closing date for applications is Monday 3rd November 2025 at 5pm.

Where potential
meets possibility.

