

For the attention of the Essential Skills Wales co-ordinator

03 March 2011

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Dear Colleague

OCR ESSENTIAL SKILLS WALES IMPORTANT MODERATION CHANGES

Many of you have asked us to make changes to our moderation model for Essential Skills Wales; we have listened and are implementing these requests. This letter informs you of the changes we are making and how it will affect the administration of these qualifications.

We are replacing the current remote moderation model with a visiting moderation model. This visiting moderation model is in line with how the former OCR Key Skills qualifications operated. The new model will be introduced from **1st May 2011**.

The benefits that you will now get from this change include:

- direct contact with the allocated OCR Visiting Standards Moderator
- ability to request an advisory visit
- evidence doesn't need to be photocopied and sent to the OCR Moderator

Here are the areas which will be affected by this change:

- centres will be able to gain ACS status after 2 clear visits or operate as a non-ACS centre
- one free annual visit will be available for both ACS and non-ACS centres
- certification claims will be administered via e-claims on the OCR Interchange
- Remote moderation will continue to be available up to 1st May 2011.

We recommend that you make your claims before 1st May 2011 if you have Welsh Baccalaureate candidates. By doing this, you will avoid any potential delay with the certification.

Further support

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter please contact the OCR Cymru office on 029 20537810. We will also update our Essential Skills Wales qualification web pages and send you further information by e-mail and letter. You can register for e-mail alerts at EssentialSkillsWales@ocr.org.uk