



Ascentis Pre-Entry Level Award in Data and Measure

Specification

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ABOUT ASCENTIS

Ascentis was originally established in 1975 as OCNW, a co-operative scheme between Universities and Colleges of Further Education. Ascentis was the first 'Open College' in the UK and served the needs of its members for over 34 years. Throughout this period, OCNW grew yet maintained its independence in order that it could continue to respond to the requirements of its customers and provide a consistently high standard of service to all centres across the country and, in recent years, to its increasing cohorts of overseas learners.

In 2009 OCNW became Ascentis – a company limited by guarantee and a registered educational charity.

Ascentis is distinctive and unusual in that it is both:

- **an Awarding Organisation** regulated by the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual, England), Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA, Northern Ireland) and Qualifications Wales

and

- **an Access Validating Agency (AVA)** for 'Access to HE Programmes' licensed by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA).

Ascentis is therefore able to offer a comprehensive ladder of opportunities to centres and their students, including Foundation Learning, vocational programmes and progressing to QAA recognised Access to HE qualifications. The flexible and adult-friendly ethos of Ascentis has resulted in centres throughout the UK choosing to run its qualifications.

ASCENTIS CONTACT DETAILS

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ASCENTIS PRE-ENTRY LEVEL AWARD IN DATA AND MEASURE

Introduction

This Award offers a flexible approach to assessment, with defined terms and content. It allows learners to practise the underpinning essential skills for working with basic data, understanding units of measure, and identifying basic shapes.

There are several features of this qualification that make it very appropriate for its target learners:

- Verification and certification can be offered throughout the year, allowing maximum flexibility for centres
- The qualification can be delivered in a range of settings
- Each unit is internally assessed
- Assessments are internally marked by centre assessors, internally verified by the centre and then externally verified by Ascentis
- Assessment dates are determined by the centre, not Ascentis

Aims

The aims of the qualification are to enable learners:

- 1 To begin their numeracy studies with confidence
- 2 To develop basic underpinning skills in:
 - Handling Data
 - Measure, Shape and Space
- 3 To be able to progress onto further study

Target Group

This qualification is aimed at a range of learners, including those who have had little interaction with numeracy and learners who may have had little or no experience of formal learning.

Rationale for the Rules of Combination

Learners must complete the 2 mandatory units in order to gain the Ascentis Pre-Entry Level Award in Data and Measure. Unit certification is available.

Rules of Combination

Ascentis Pre-Entry Level Award in Data and Measure			
			Minimum credits: 2
			Minimum credit value at level of qualification or above: 2
Mandatory Units			
Title	Level	Credit Value	GLH
Handling Data	Pre-Entry	1	10
Measure, Shape and Space	Pre-Entry	1	10

Guided Learning Hours

The recommended guided learning hours for this qualification is 20.

Total Qualification Time

The total qualification time is 20 hours.

Time Limit for the Process of Credit Accumulation and Exemptions

Credit accumulation is usually within the life span of the qualification. Exemptions may have been achieved previous to the qualification start date; each case will be considered separately.

Recommended Prior Knowledge, Attainment and/or Experience

No previous formal qualifications are required for entry to this qualification.

Age Range of Qualification

This qualification is suitable for young people aged 14–19 and adult learners.

Opportunities for Progression

Learners who have completed this qualification may wish to undertake Entry Level Mathematics qualifications.

Resources to Support the Delivery of the Qualification

These are outlined in the Assessor Guidance.

Centre Recognition

This qualification can only be offered by centres recognised by Ascentis and approved to run this qualification. Details of the centre recognition and qualification approval process are available from the Ascentis office (tel. 01524 845046) or from the website at www.ascentis.co.uk.

Qualification Approval

If your centre is already a recognised centre, you will need to complete and submit a qualification approval form to deliver this qualification. Details of the qualification approval process are available from the Ascentis office (tel. 01524 845046) or from the website at www.ascentis.co.uk.

Registration

Candidates need to be registered electronically via the Ascentis electronic registration portal at least 10 working days before the intended assessment date. Guidance can be downloaded from the Ascentis website at www.ascentis.co.uk.

Status in England, Wales and Northern Ireland

These qualifications are available in England. They are only offered in English. If you wish to deliver them in any other nation, please contact development@ascentis.co.uk

Reasonable Adjustments and Special Considerations

In the development of this qualification Ascentis has made every attempt to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to achievement. For learners with particular requirements reasonable adjustments may be made in order that they can have fair assessment and demonstrate attainment. There are also arrangements for special consideration for any learner suffering illness, injury or indisposition. Full details of reasonable adjustments and special considerations are available from the login area of the Ascentis website (www.ascentis.co.uk) or through contacting the Ascentis office.

Enquiries and Appeals Procedure

Ascentis has an appeals procedure in accordance with the regulatory arrangements in the Ofqual *General Conditions of Recognition*¹. Full details of this procedure, including how to make an application, are available from the login area of the Ascentis website (www.ascentis.co.uk) or through contacting the Ascentis office.

¹In Northern Ireland it is the CCEA General Conditions of Recognition and Qualifications Wales is the Standard Conditions of Recognition.

ASSESSMENT AND VERIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS

Assessment

The Ascentis Pre-Entry Level Award in Data and Measure requires evidence of achievement of all the skills and activities that are set out in each unit within the specification. The successful achievement of all the tasks for a unit provides confirmation that all learning outcomes and assessment criteria within the units of assessment have been achieved.

Assessments are internally marked by centre assessors and then internally verified to ensure consistency. The assessments will then be externally verified by Ascentis. An attendance list must be completed for each assessment. Marking guidance is provided for the assessment and they give sufficient detailed information to support consistent assessment decisions. Assessors should judge their learners' performance against these criteria following the detailed marking guidance. The centre must retain evidence of the assessments for four weeks after the date of the external verification in case of appeal.

The specification and the assessor guidance provides an indication of the kind of assessments the learner is going to be asked to perform and of the skills to be assessed.

Learners cannot be assessed through the same task more than once. If a learner is unsuccessful in an assessment, he/she may be given another opportunity for assessment, but this must be through a different task. It is a centre's responsibility to monitor the use of the assessments and their security.

Verification

Internal Verification

Internal verification is the process of ensuring that everyone who assesses a particular unit in a centre is assessing to the same standards, i.e. consistently and reliably. Internal verification activities will include: ensuring any stimulus or materials used for the purposes of assessment are fit for purpose; sampling assessments; standardisation of assessment decisions; and standardisation of internal verification decisions. Internal Verifiers are also responsible for supporting assessors by providing constructive advice and guidance in relation to the qualification delivered.

Further information is available from the log in area of the Ascentis website: www.ascentis.co.uk

External Verification

Recognised centres will be visited in accordance with a verification model that is considered most appropriate for the provision. More frequent verifications can be requested from the Ascentis Quality Assurance team, for which there is usually an additional charge. External verification will usually focus on the following areas:

- A review of the centre's management of the provision
- The levels of resources to support the delivery of the qualification, including both physical resources and staffing
- Ensuring the centre is using appropriate assessment methods and making appropriate assessment decisions according to Ascentis' requirements
- Ensuring the centre has appropriate internal quality assurance arrangements as outlined within the relevant qualification specification
- Checking that the centre is using appropriate administrative arrangements to support the function of delivery and assessment

External Verifiers will usually do this through discussion with the centre management team; assessment and Internal Quality Assurance staff; verifying a sample of learners' evidence; talking to learners; and reviewing relevant centre documentation and systems.

Knowledge, Understanding and Skills Required of Assessors and Internal Verifiers

Those delivering and assessing the qualifications should hold a recognised teaching qualification such as the Level 4 Certificate in Education and Training or Level 5 Diploma in Education and Training.

Centres are responsible for ensuring that all staff involved in the delivery of the qualification are appropriately qualified. Ascentis will not be held responsible for any issues that relate to centre staffing which could impact on the successful delivery, assessment and internal quality assurance of our qualifications.

Those delivering the qualification should preferably hold or be working towards a recognised teaching qualification. Assessors must be able to make appropriate assessment decisions. Internal Quality Assurers need to have knowledge and experience of the internal quality assurance processes.

Centres are required to ensure that appropriate training and support is in place for staff involved in the delivery, assessment and internal verification of Ascentis qualifications.

Ascentis offers free support for centres. Further information on the support that is available can be found on Quartz Web or the Ascentis website.

UNIT SPECIFICATIONS

Handling Data

Credit Value of Unit: 1

GLH of Unit: 10

Level of Unit: Pre-Entry

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria
The learner will be able to:	The learner can::
1 Order items in sequence	1.1 List 5 items numerically
2 Group objects of a single criterion Use an image to count	2.1 Select three objects from five that are either • Circular • Square • Triangular
	2.2 Select 3 objects from 5 that are the same size
	2.3 Select 3 objects from 5 that have the same function
3 Use an image to count	3.1 Use a given image to count to 10
4 Estimate number of items	4.1 Estimate number of items up to 10 and check by counting

Indicative Content
Please be aware that the indicative content supplied below is a suggested guide only. 3.1 given image: A number line 4.1 Using up to 10 everyday items the Assessor is to note the learner's estimation and their check by counting. The objects can be anything that is in the learning environment at the time of this assessment.

Assessment method

This unit is assessed by teacher-led assessment using the photocard record supplied by Ascentis.

UNIT SPECIFICATIONS

Measure, Shape and Space

Credit Value of Unit: 1

GLH of Unit: 10

Level of Unit: Pre-Entry

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria
The learner will be able to:	The learner can::
1 Relate events to times of the day	1.1 Identify an activity that usually takes place in the morning
	1.2 Identify an activity that usually takes place in the afternoon
	1.3 Identify an activity that usually takes place in the evening
2 Know the meaning of weight	2.1 Describe the weight of two items that are ▪ heavy ▪ light
	2.2 Describe the weight of two items that are ▪ heavier ▪ lighter
3 Know the difference between basic shapes	3.1 Select three objects from five that are either ▪ circular ▪ square ▪ triangular
4 Recognise objects at different heights	4.1 Select an item from a top shelf
	4.2 Select an item from a bottom shelf

Indicative Content
Please be aware that the indicative content supplied below is a suggested guide only. 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 Activity: any plausible answer may be given which the majority of people would accept as an activity for that time of day. For example, giving breakfast as an activity in the evening would need further questioning as the learner could explain that they eat cereal in the evening. 2.1, 2.2 Describe: Learners are to show they know the difference between heavy, light, heavier and lighter.

Assessment method

This unit is assessed by teacher led assessment using the photocard record supplied by Ascentis.

APPENDIX 1

Summary Record of Achievement Pre-Entry Award in Data and Measure

Unit Title	Level	Credit Value	Date completed	Assessor Signature	Internal Verifier Signature (if sampled)
Handling Data	Pre-Entry	1			
Measure, Shape and Space	Pre-Entry	1			

Learner Name _____

Minimum Credit Value of Qualification 2

Level Claimed _____

Total Credit Value at Level being claimed _____

Assessor Signature _____

Internal Verifier Signature (if sampled) _____

APPENDIX 2

Tracking Sheet

Handling Data

Criteria	Assessment Method	Evidence Details	Portfolio Reference	Completion Date
1.1 List 5 items numerically				
2.1 Select three objects from five that are either • Circular • Square • Triangular				
2.2 Select 3 objects from 5 that are the same size				
2.3 Select 3 objects from 5 that have the same function				
3.1 Use a given image to count to 10				
4.1 Estimate number of items up to 10 and check by counting				

The above evidence has been assessed against the standards and has been judged for validity, authenticity, currency, reliability and sufficiency.

Learner Signature _____ Date _____

Assessor Signature _____ Date _____

Internal Verifier (if sampled) _____ Date _____

APPENDIX 2

Tracking Sheet

Measure, Shape and Space

Criteria	Assessment Method	Evidence Details	Portfolio Reference	Completion Date
1.1 Identify an activity that usually takes place in the morning				
1.2 Identify an activity that usually takes place in the afternoon				
1.3 Identify an activity that usually takes place in the evening				
2.1 Describe the weight of two items that are - heavy - light				
2.2 Describe the weight of two items that are - heavier - lighter				
3.1 Select three objects from five that are either - circular - square - triangular				
4.1 Select an item from a top shelf				
4.2 Select an item from a bottom shelf				

The above evidence has been assessed against the standards and has been judged for validity, authenticity, currency, reliability and sufficiency.

Learner Signature _____ Date _____

Assessor Signature _____ Date _____

Internal Verifier (if sampled) _____ Date _____