Ascentis Level 1 Award in

Understanding British Values

Specification

Ofqual Number:	**603/0130/2**
Ofqual Start Date:	1st August 2016
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Ofqual Certification Review Date:	31st July 2029

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SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Version and Date	Change Detail	Section
October 2026 v2	Review and certification dates updated	Front page
	Summary of changes table added	Page 2
	AI use paragraph added	Page 8

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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LEVEL 1 AWARD IN UNDERSTANDING BRITISH VALUES

Introduction

This one-unit qualification introduces the learner to the 4 main principles of British Values. It is a flexible unit which enables centres to contextualise the values in a variety of areas.

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

- Assessment and certification can be offered throughout the year, allowing maximum flexibility for centres
- The qualification is offered as a single unit of 10 guided learning hours
- It can be delivered either as a classroom-based course or as a blended learning programme
- There are online resources that can be used alongside the teaching

Aims

The aims of the qualification are to enable learners:

1 To gain understanding of democracy

2 To gain understanding of the rule of law

3 To understand individual liberty

4 To understand mutual respect and tolerance

Target Group

This qualification is aimed at a range of learners who are interested in developing knowledge and understanding of British Values.

Ofqual Qualification Number (Ofqual): 603/0130/2

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Award of the Qualification

Learners must complete one unit for the Ascentis Level 1 Award in Understanding British Values.

Ascentis Level 1 Award in Understanding British Values				
Title	**Level**	**Credit Value**	**TQT**	**Unit Reference**
Understanding British Values	1	1	10	M/615/0490

Recommended Guided Learning Hours

The recommended guided learning hours for this qualification is 10.

Total Qualification Time

The total qualification time for this qualification is 10 hours.

Recommended Prior Knowledge, Attainment and/or Experience

No recommended prior learning or experience is required.

Age Range of Qualification

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

Opportunities for Progression

The qualification gives the learner an introduction to British Values which can be applied in a wide variety of contexts. Learners may use the qualification as a stand-alone course or as part of a longer vocational or academic programme of study. Learners may also use the qualification as an element of their continuing professional development.

Resources to Support the Delivery of the Qualification

There are interactive online resources and a Tutor Guidance document available to support this qualification. The Tutor Guidance document includes indicative content for tutors and a glossary of terms to give learners that will support them with technical vocabulary, this can be found in the login area of the Ascentis website at www.ascentis.co.uk. The resources are available to download from the Ascentis electronic portal.
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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.

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Registration

All learners must normally be registered with Ascentis within seven weeks of commencement of a course via the Ascentis electronic registration portal. Late registration may result in a fee; refer to the latest version of the product catalogue.

Status in England, Wales and Northern Ireland

This qualification is available in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. It is only offered in English. If a centre based overseas (including Scotland) would like to offer this qualification, they should make an enquiry to Ascentis.

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 the reasonable adjustments and special considerations are available from the Resources/Key Documents 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 Resources/Key Documents area of the Ascentis website www.ascentis.co.uk or through contacting the Ascentis office.

Useful Links

Web links and other resources featured in this specification are suggestions only to support the delivery of this qualification and should be implemented at the centre's discretion. The hyperlinks provided were live at the time this specification was last reviewed. Please kindly notify Ascentis if you find a link that is no longer active.

Please note: Ascentis is not responsible for the content of third-party websites and, whilst we check external links regularly, the owners of these sites may remove or amend these documents or web pages at any time.

[1] The Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) has developed some high level principles that cover the same requirements as the Ofqual Conditions. These are the SQA Accreditation's Regulatory Principles (2014).

ASSESSMENT AND VERIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS

Assessment

The unit is internally assessed through the learner building up a portfolio of evidence that covers the relevant assessment criteria. Centres can use the assessment booklet developed by Ascentis and available to download from the Ascentis electronic portal which covers all the assessment criteria. The evidence will be internally assessed and verified by the centre and then externally verified by Ascentis.

On completion of the learners' evidence for the Award, the assessor is required to complete the Summary Record of Achievement for each learner. The Summary Record of Achievement form is provided in Appendix 1.

Centres are required to retain all evidence from all learners for external verification and for 4 weeks afterwards should any appeal be made.

Internal Assessment

Evidence is through building up a portfolio of evidence which can be done by using the assessment booklet developed by Ascentis to demonstrate that all the assessment criteria within the unit have been achieved. The evidence will be assessed by the assessor at the centre, who may or may not be the tutor teaching the course.

If the learner fails to meet the assessment criteria on the first attempt at an activity they may redraft the work following feedback given by the tutor. However, tutors must not correct the work of the learner, and all feedback given by the tutor must be included within the learner's evidence.

Learners' portfolio work should include a tracking sheet to show where the evidence for each assessment criterion is to be found. Some activities could produce evidence for more than one criterion, which is acceptable as long as there is clear reference to this on the tracking sheet. An example of a tracking sheet is found in Appendix 2.

The Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Assessments

There are potential risks associated with the use of AI in assessments, such as the possibility of bias and the potential for cheating.

Centres are expected to detect and monitor the use of AI tools in assessments. Centres must be satisfied that the work provided is that of the learner. All learners must be aware that they are responsible for ensuring they are not cheating in assessments by using AI tools. All learners must cite the use of AI in their assessments where this is allowed.

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; 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.

Ascentis offers free refresher training in support of this role through an Ascentis Internal Quality Assurance course. The purpose of the course is to provide staff in centres with knowledge and understanding of Ascentis IQA processes and procedures, which will enable them to carry out their role more effectively. To book your place on a course or request further information, please contact the Ascentis Quality Assurance Team (qualityassurance@ascentis.co.uk).

Further information is available from the login section of the Ascentis website www.ascentis.co.uk

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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 centres management of the regulated 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 and 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

Centres must ensure that those delivering and assessing Ascentis qualifications are occupationally knowledgeable and competent within the relevant subject area.

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 the Ascentis electronic portal or the Ascentis website.

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Unit Title - Understanding British Values
Unit Code - M/615/0490

Credit Value of Unit: 1 **GLH of Unit: 10** **Level of Unit: 1**

Learning Outcomes The learner will be able to	Assessment Criteria The learner can
1 Understand the meaning of democracy in relation to British Values.	1.1 Outline the meaning of the term 'democracy'
	1.2 Outline examples of people who have demonstrated democracy
	1.3 Identify governments and/or organisations in the United Kingdom which are examples of democracy
	1.4 Identify how people within the United Kingdom can participate in democracy
2 Understand the meaning of the rule of law in relation to British Values.	2.1 Outline the meaning of the term 'rule of law'
	2.2 Identify why there is a need to have a rule of law in the United Kingdom
	2.3 Identify a law of personal interest and outline its purpose
	2.4 Outline the different types of punishments in the courts for not complying with the rule of law
	2.5 Outline the purposes of criminal and civil law
3 Understand the meaning of individual liberty in relation to British Values.	3.1 Outline the meaning of the term 'individual liberty'
	3.2 List examples of current individual liberties that citizens of the United Kingdom enjoy
4 Understand the meaning of mutual respect and tolerance in relation to British Values.	4.1 Outline the meaning of the terms 'mutual respect and tolerance'
	4.2 Identify the key qualities required for practising mutual respect and tolerance
	4.3 Outline examples of attitudes and behaviours which have a negative impact upon mutual respect and tolerance
	4.4 Outline the meaning of the following terms ▪ Terrorism ▪ Radicalisation ▪ Extremism
	4.5 Outline the impact on others of the following terms ▪ Terrorism ▪ Radicalisation ▪ Extremism

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Summary Record of Achievement
Level 1 Award in Understanding British Values

Unit Title	Level	Credit Value	Date completed	Assessor Signature	Internal Verifier Signature (if sampled)
Understanding British Values	Level 1	1			

Learner Name _____

Assessor Signature _____

Internal Verifier Signature (if sampled) _____

External Verifier Signature (if sampled) _____

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Tracking Sheet

Understanding British Values

Criteria	Assessment Method	Evidence Details	Portfolio Reference	Completion Date
1.1 Outline the meaning of the term 'democracy'				
1.2 Outline examples of people who have demonstrated democracy				
1.3 Identify Governments and/or organisations in the United Kingdom which are examples of democracy				
1.4 Identify how people within the United Kingdom can participate in democracy				
2.1 Outline the meaning of the term 'rule of law'				
2.2 Identify why there is a need to have a rule of law in the United Kingdom				
2.3 Identify a law of personal interest and outline its purpose				
2.4 Outline the different types of punishments in the courts for not complying with the rule of law				
2.5 Outline the purposes of criminal and civil law				
3.1 Outline the meaning of the term 'individual liberty'				
3.2 List examples of current individual liberties that citizens of the United Kingdom enjoy				
4.1 Outline the meaning of the terms 'mutual respect and tolerance'				
4.2 Identify the key qualities required for practising mutual respect and tolerance				
4.3 Outline examples of attitudes and behaviours which have a negative impact upon mutual respect and tolerance				
4.4 Outline the meaning of the following terms ▪ Terrorism ▪ Radicalisation ▪ Extremism				
4.5 Outline the impact on others of the following terms ▪ Terrorism ▪ Radicalisation ▪ Extremism				

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 _____

External Verifier (if sampled)_____ Date _____

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