



## Second Chance English - Certificate in Functional English Skills

### WHY TAKE THIS COURSE?

An English qualification is increasingly important if you are looking to get a job or to improve your career prospects. A Functional English Skills qualification is designed to give individuals the English skills needed to operate confidently, effectively and independently in education, work and everyday life.

### WHAT ARE THE KEY TOPICS IT WILL COVER?

You will work at a level which is most appropriate to you based on an initial assessment but at whatever the level you are, you will cover the following key topics:

- Speaking and listening skills: Discussion and presentation skills.
- Reading and understanding texts; read and compare texts to gather information, ideas, arguments and opinions.
- Writing: Creating a range of texts from letters through to reports using formats and styles suitable for purpose and audience; expressing ideas and opinions effectively and persuasively.

The qualification is divided into 3 units which can be claimed individually or once you have obtained all three, can be "cashed in" to form the full award.

### WHO WILL THE COURSE SUIT?

This course is only suitable for anyone who is 16, 17 or 18 years of age. It is not suitable for anyone who has English as their second language. If you missed out at school and did not get the English qualifications you need, then this course is for you. It is a nationally recognised qualification which can be used to boost your CV, help you to gain employment, progress onto higher education or just generally give you more confidence in your all round English knowledge.

### IS THERE A QUALIFICATION AT THE END OF THE COURSE?

Yes -an Edexcel Functional Skills qualification in English. The level will depend on your initial assessment. Level 1 equates to work at GCSE grades D-G; Level 2 equates to work at GCSE grades A-C.

### IF YES, HOW WILL IT BE ASSESSED?

- Speaking and Listening Unit - Internally assessed and marked; 33% of the total qualification; approximate assessment time is 30 minutes; available throughout the year.
- Reading Unit – Externally assessed and marked by Edexcel; 45 minute examination taken at designated "assessment periods". The first assessment period is available in November. Total number of marks – 20.
- Writing Unit – Externally assessed and marked by Edexcel; 45 minute examination taken at designated "assessment periods". The first assessment period is available in November. Total number of marks – 25.

Working in partnership with

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The logo for Warrington Borough Council, featuring a stylized white shape that resembles a comma or a drop, positioned to the right of the text.