Essential Digital Skills Qualification

The purpose

1

11.3 million people in the UK (22% of the population) are without the digital skills needed for everyday life.

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Skills Forward

Lloyds Bank UK Digital Index 2020

Two-thirds
of those online have not used the internet or digital apps and tools to manage their health.

27%
of those in full time education are concerned their digital skills are not good enough.

20%
of the UK workforce do not believe their digital skills are good enough.

An estimated **9 million** people are unable to use the internet or their devices without assistance.

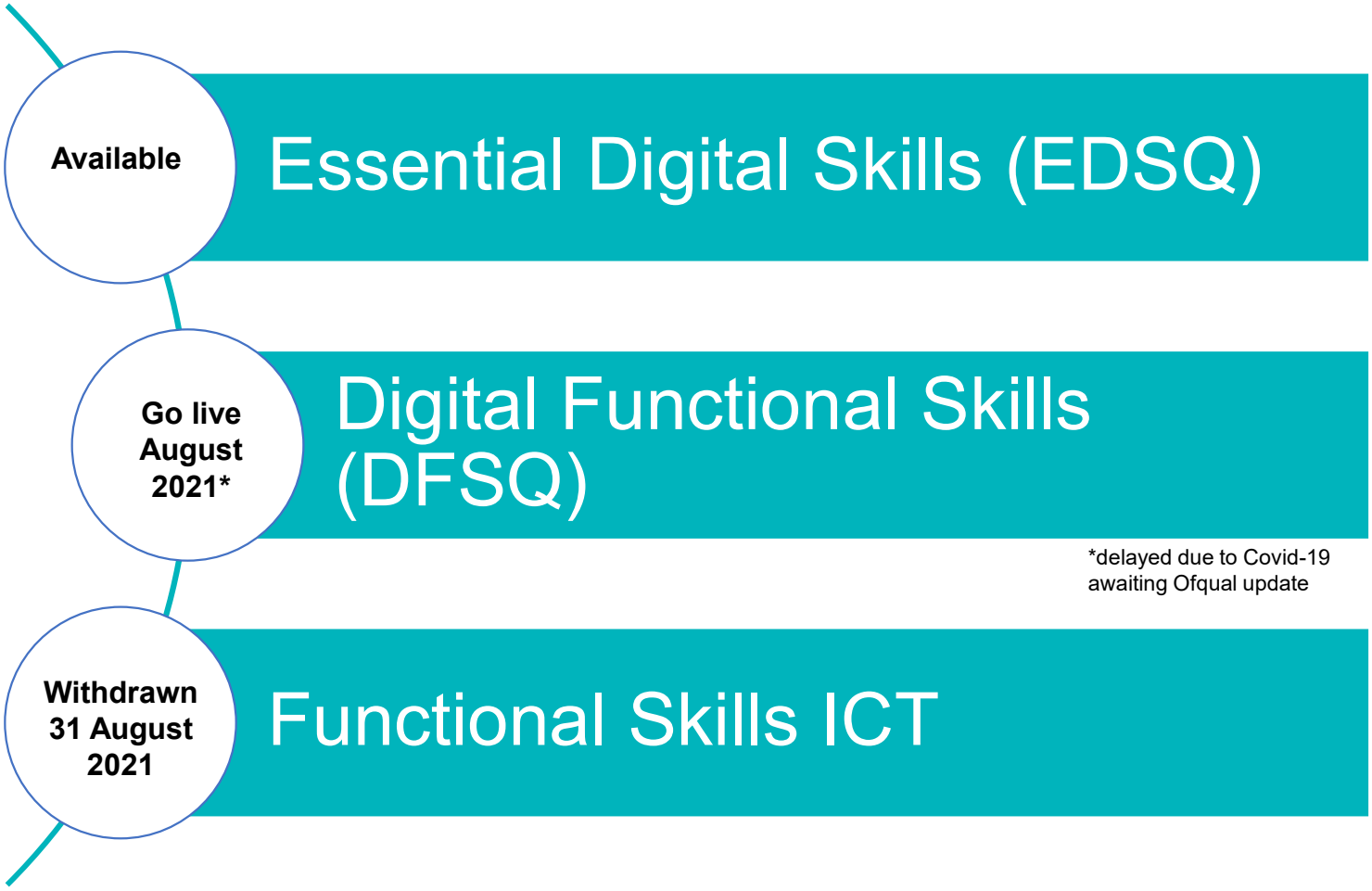
6.5 million
people cannot open apps.

Social mobility

- People who are less digitally engaged will spend an average **£348 more per year on household bills**
- **4 in 10 benefit claimants** have very low digital engagement
- People with an impairment are **25% less likely to have the skills to access devices** and get online by themselves
- People with an annual household income of £50,000 or more are 40% more likely to have foundation digital skills, **than those earning less than £17,499**
- **61%** of highly digital citizens have used the internet **to successfully apply for a job**

The content

2


Available
Essential Digital Skills (EDSQ)
Go live August 2021*
Digital Functional Skills (DFSQ)
*delayed due to Covid-19 awaiting Ofqual update
Withdrawn 31 August 2021
Functional Skills ICT

National standards for essential digital skills

The qualifications cover 5 subject areas:

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Entry level

Designed for adults with no or little prior experience of using digital devices or the internet.

Assessment:

- Task based assessment
- Question paper
- Observation with the learner

Level 1

Designed for adults with some experience of using digital devices and the internet but lacking secure basic digital skills.

Assessment:

- Task based assessment
- Question paper

Initial Assessment

3

The new digital entitlement from 2020 will support learners with no or low digital skills.

They will be fully funded and a condition of that funding is that the learner has sat an initial assessment to identify the level they are working towards.

You must:

- carry out an initial assessment using current assessment tools based on the national standards for essential digital skills
- carry out an appropriate diagnostic assessment to inform and structure a learner's learner file to use as a basis for a programme of study
- enrol the learner on a level above that at which they were assessed and be able to provide evidence of this
- deliver ongoing assessment to support learning
- record the evidence of all assessment outcomes in the evidence pack.

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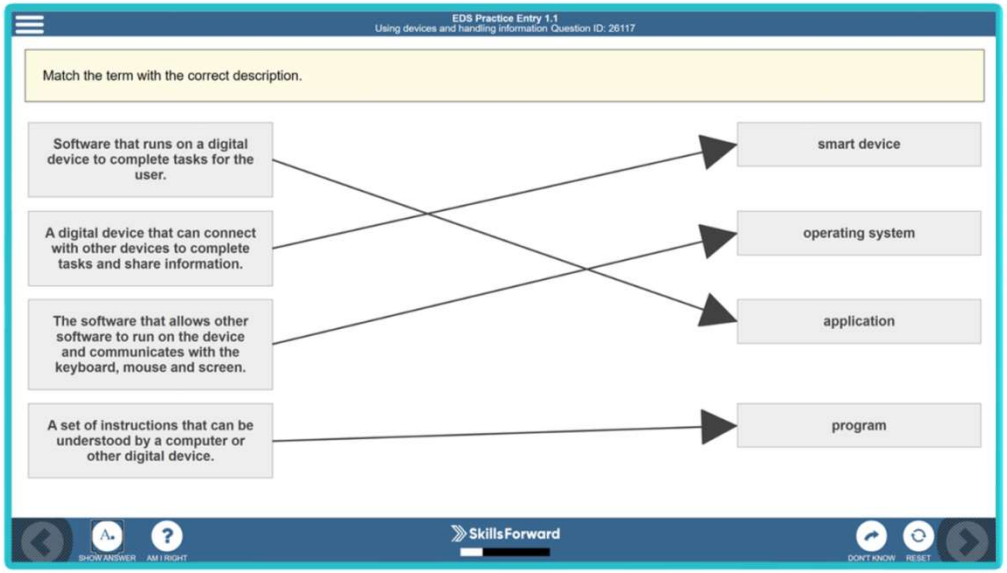
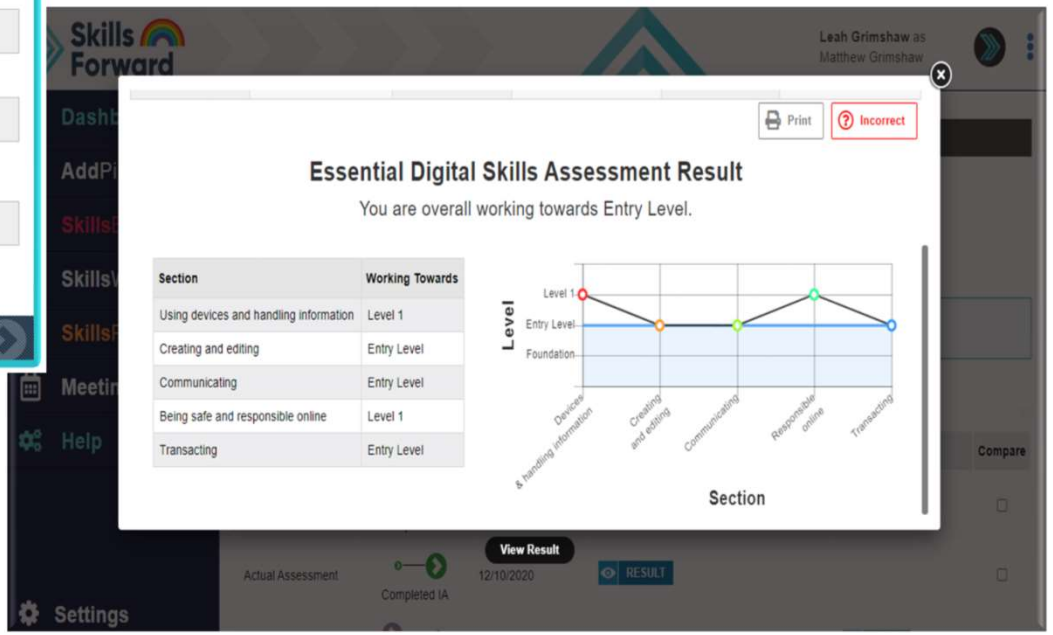
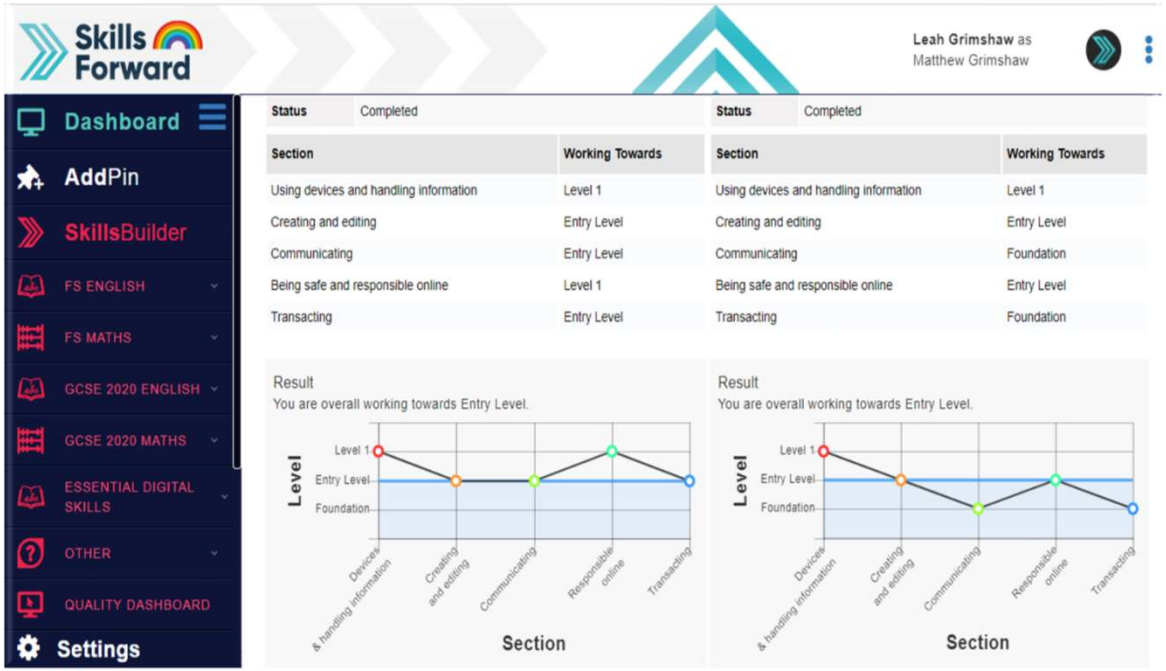
Skills Forward

Practice Skills Question



- ✓ **Multiple choice assessment**
- ✓ **Foundation, Entry, Level 1**
- ✓ **Access 24/7**
- ✓ **Individual spiky profile report**





- ✓ **Data**
- ✓ **Distance Travelled**
- ✓ **Progress Indicators**
- ✓ **Quality Dashboard**

Delivery

4

Who are your learners? How will you engage them? What are the barriers to them learning?

Digital poverty and access to technology

Additional learning needs

Limited or no familiarity with common devices

Geographical limitations e.g. Wi-Fi connection

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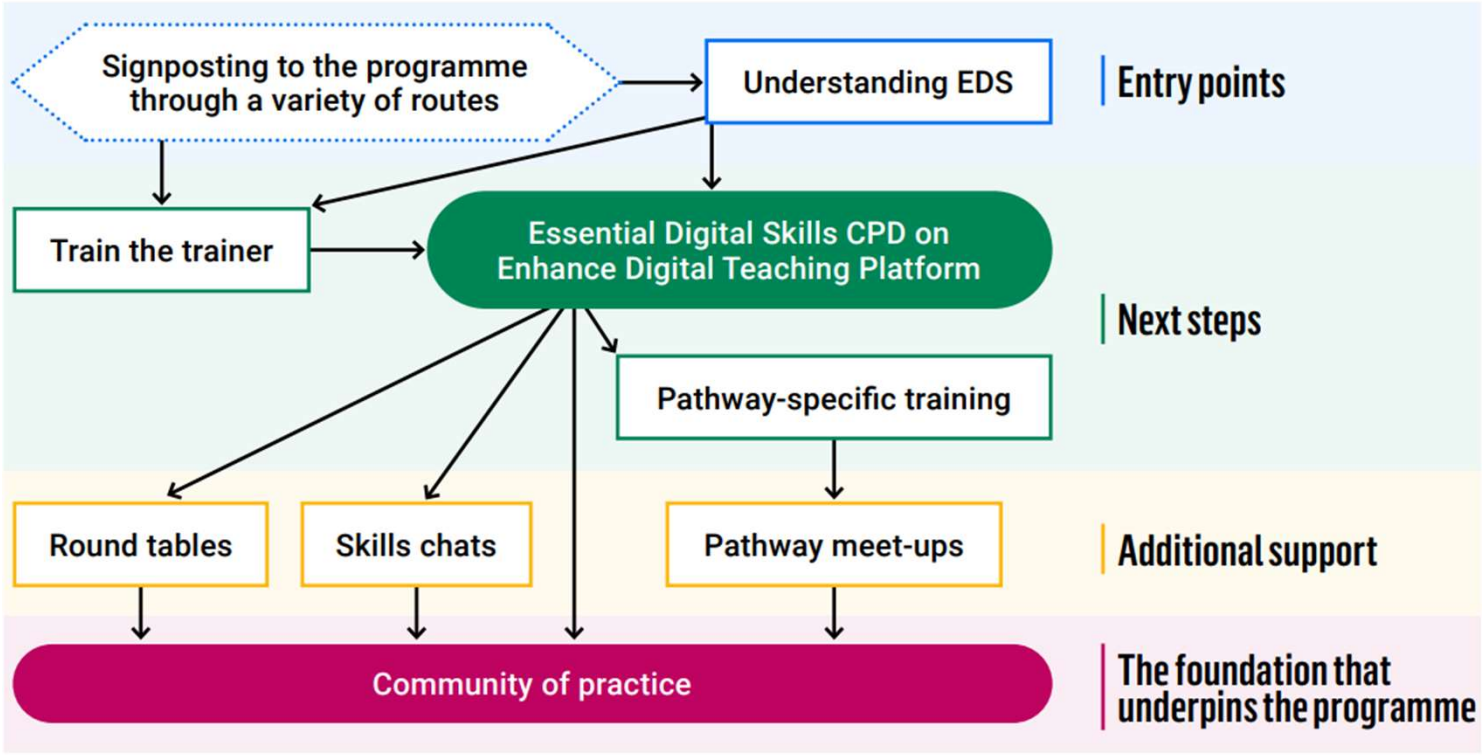
Essential Digital Skills (EDS) training programme

Skills Forward

EDUCATION & TRAINING FOUNDATION

● Online / Enhance Digital Teaching Platform (DTP) □ Training sessions



www.enhance.etfoundation.co.uk/eds

#ETFSupportsFE #EssentialDigitalSkills #EnhanceEDS #EnhanceDTP

The journey

5

Educator journey

Learner journey

Onboarding – staff CPD, key policies, assessment requirements	**Planning –** subject content, amplification, SOW, resources	**Initial assessment –** provider, requirements, accessibility, support	**Delivery: Teaching –** blended learning, contextualised learning
Delivery: Learning – engaging content, short and snappy, relevant	**Review and Assessment Prep –** distance travelled, sample assessments, knowledge retention, revision sessions	**Assessment –** suitable for learner, breakdown barriers, accessible	**Review and Improve –** end of year review, what worked well vs what did not work, inform into planning for new session

The employer

6

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Why should employers embrace Digital Skills?

Skills Forward

“Significant value can be added to the UK economy and society”

“Digital Skills can increase business productivity”

“Digital Skills can provide new ways of working”

“Digital transformation from top to bottom”

“Encourage self-directed learning”

“Staff progression linked to digital skills”

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