

inside government

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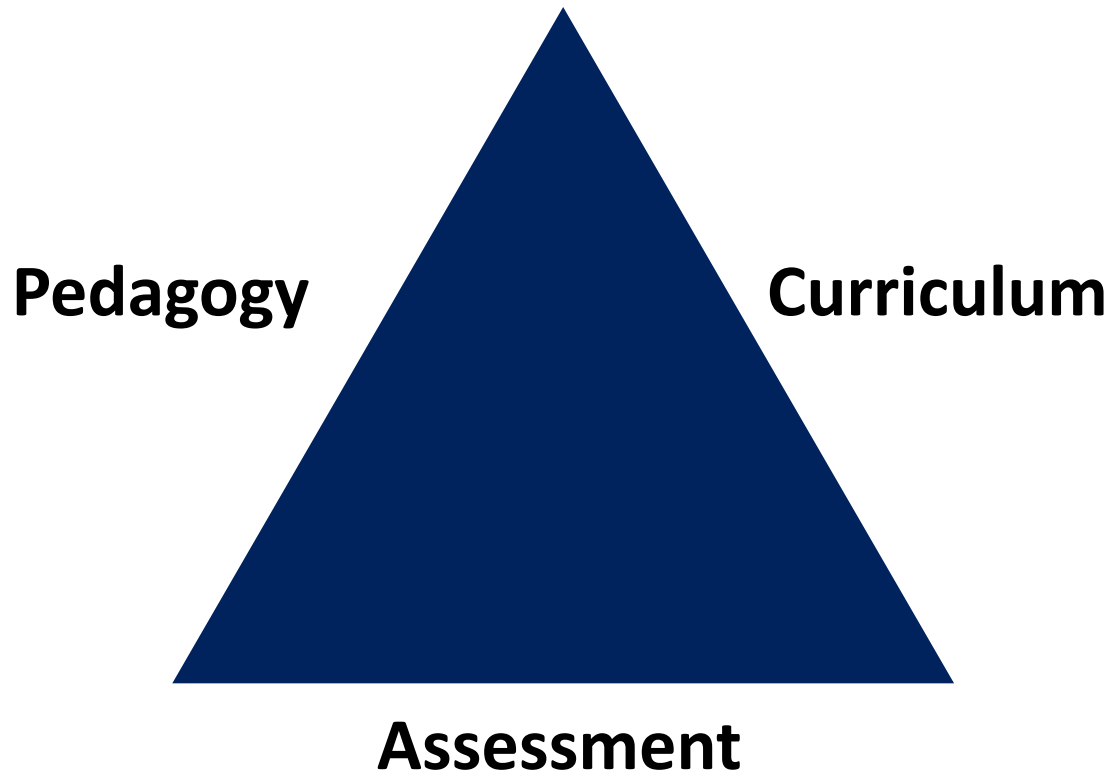
# Can you teach a qualification?

**Paul Steer**

Director, Stakeholder Relations

**The relationship between  
assessment, curriculum and the  
way things are taught.**

# The Learning Triangle



# The Learning Triangle

**Pedagogy**

**Curriculum**



**Assessment**

**“The volume of external assessment has also grown enormously. For the great majority of pupils nationally it now encompasses the entire curriculum, at age 16 and again at age 18.”**

**“A prescriptive assessment-driven curriculum, the examinations framework and the nature of measures used and targets set by government have forced teachers to abandon education (in its true sense) for easily measurable proxies.”**

*The Sir Richard Sykes Review*

**“The current curriculum was encouraging students to do the bare minimum in order to get through the exam instead of inspiring a lifelong interest in science”**

Richard Pike, chief executive of the Royal Society of Chemistry said:

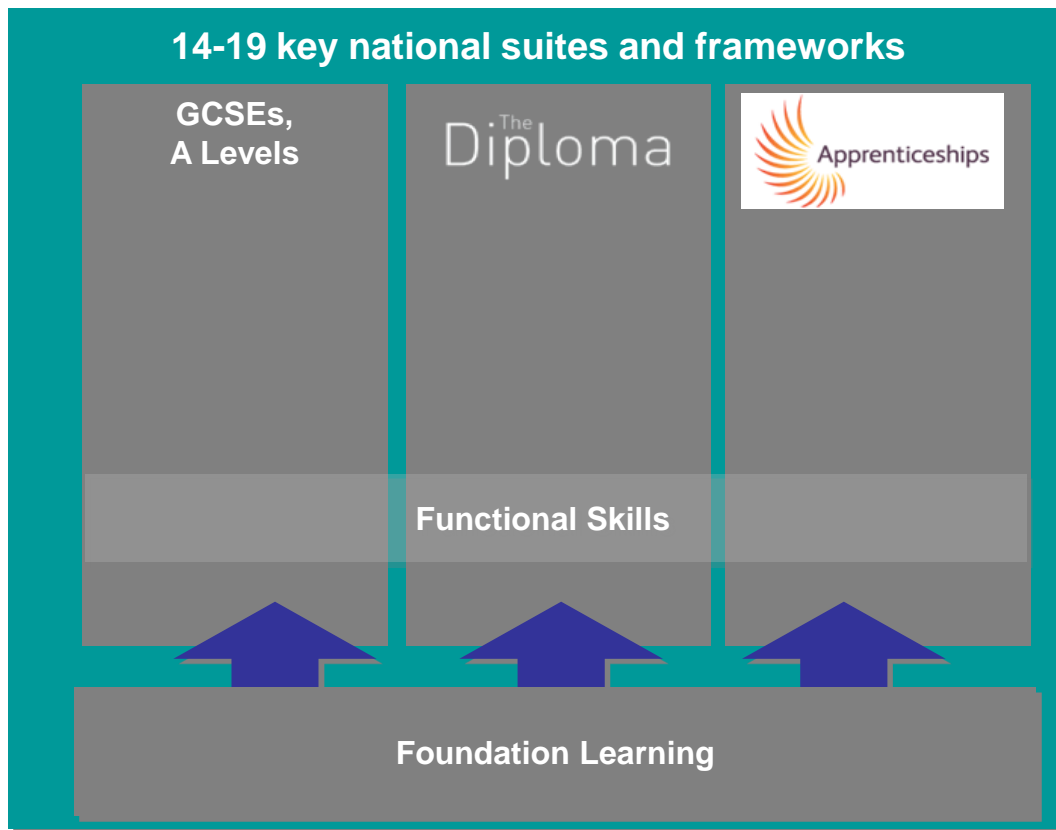
**“Teachers are so frustrated that they just want to get the curriculum out of the way and do the interesting things.**

**“Teachers cover the curriculum in 60 per cent of their time and spend the other 40 per cent doing really great things like tracking asteroids or doing transgender work in biology.”**

*TES connect, 23 April 2010 (‘Formulaic Science Curriculum’)*

# **Qualification Architecture**

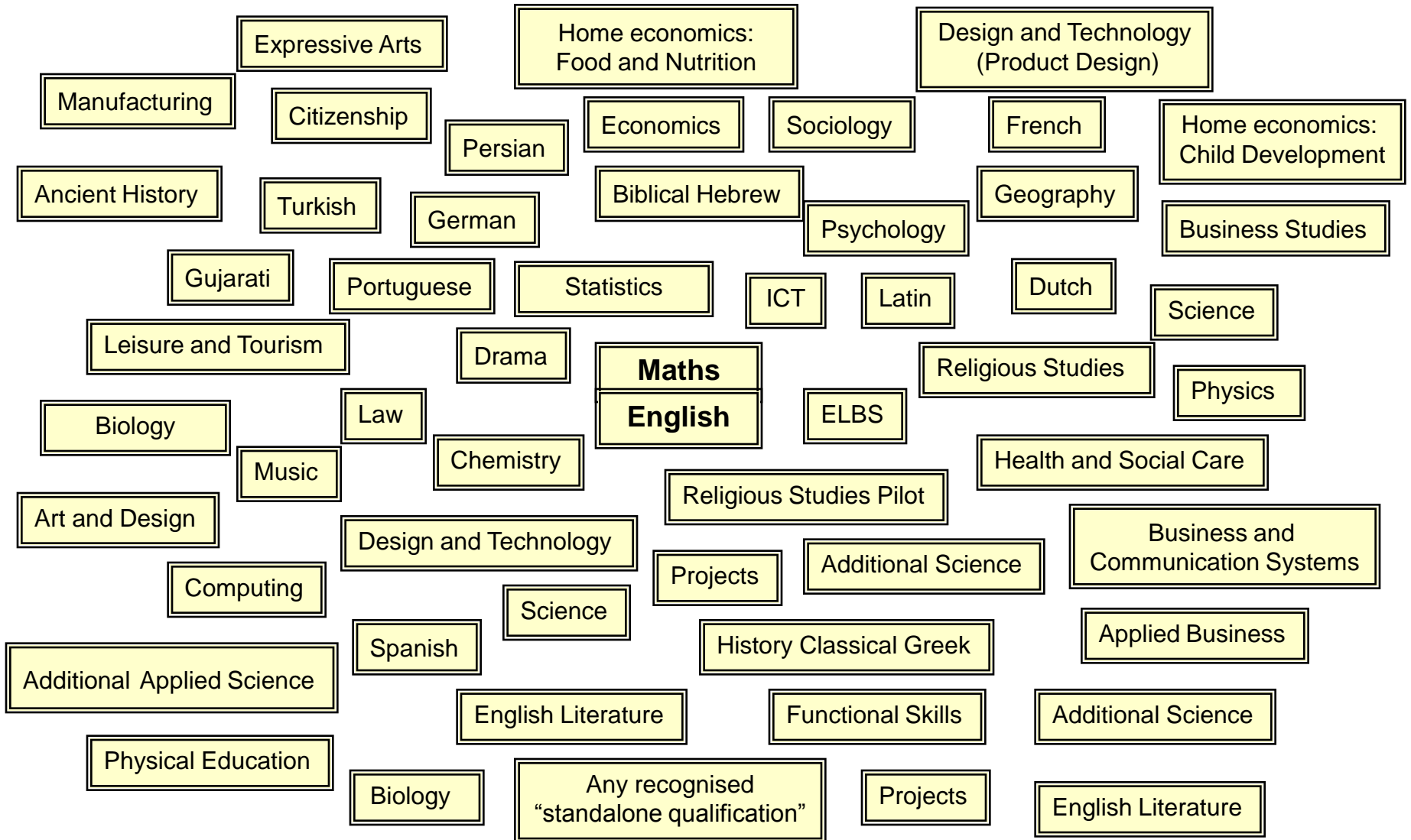
## Walk on the grass as well as the paths ...



## The Diploma Structure

Level 2 Diploma 800 glh	Generic Learning 200 glh	Principal Learning 420 glh	Additional/ Specialist Learning 180 glh
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# Can you teach a qualification?



## Stages, Ages, Local and Personal

**“You teach things to children when they are ready to grasp them and ensure the right sequence of conceptual progression”**

*Tim Oates*

*Missing the Point: identifying a well-grounded common core,  
Cambridge Assessment, April 2010*

## Who decides what gets taught?

1. Young people
2. Parents
3. Teachers
4. Curriculum Heads
5. Teacher subject associations
6. Learned Societies and other 'subject' bodies
7. Awarding Bodies
8. Employers
9. Higher Education
10. Sector Skills councils
11. Ofqual
12. Ofsted
13. Curriculum Authorities
14. Civil Servants
15. Public Opinion/The Media
16. Policy Advisors
17. Ministers

## What is a curriculum anyway?

- A set of subjects
- A program of study
- A set of materials
- A course of study
- A sequence of courses
- A series of experiences undergone by a learner in school
- Individual learning experiences as a result of schooling
- The way learning is organised
- Everything that takes place within a school including extra curricular activities, guidance and interpersonal relationships

“Our starting point is the conviction that young people should enter adulthood with the confidence, ability and desire to make their world a better place. The route to achieving this is the curriculum – **everything they learn at school, college and beyond**”

*(The Curriculum Foundation, Learning to Create a Better World)*

## What counts as an educated 19 year old today?

- **Intellectual development**
- **Practical capability**
- **Community participation**
- **Moral seriousness**
- **Pursuit of Excellence**
- **Self-awareness**

*(From Education for All – The Future of Education and Training for 14-19 year olds)*

## A National Curriculum for Science

**“It should be a highly accurate map of key concepts, ordered in the correct sequence – indeed it should resemble a list more than it should resemble a manifesto...”**

*Tim Oates*

*Missing the Point: identifying a well-grounded common core  
Cambridge Assessment, April 2010*

***Thank you***

**Paul Steer**  
Director, Stakeholder Relations

**[www.ocr.org.uk](http://www.ocr.org.uk)**

**[www.cambridgeassessment.org.uk](http://www.cambridgeassessment.org.uk)**