

WorldSkills UK National Competitions

Colin Galley Further Education Standards and Quality Manager

What we do



Inspire excellence



We inspire young people via our careers advice resources to choose excellence through apprenticeships and technical education as a prestigious career route on their path to reaching their potential, whatever their background.

Develop excellence



We develop excellence in young people by testing and assessing their skills and knowledge against their peers through our national and international competitions programmes, improving their confidence and potential.

Innovate excellence



We innovate to mainstream global excellence to help improve standards of teaching, training and assessment through international benchmarking to help young people, employers and the UK economy succeed.

What are skills competitions?

Skills competitions are designed by industry experts, and assess an individual's knowledge, practical skills and employability attributes against set criteria in a competitive timed environment

- individuals benefit from the fine tuning of critical skills, attributes and behaviours valued by employers; problemsolving, self-reflection, time management and ability to work under pressure
- our programmes enable participants to bring world-class skills back to their organisations, **improving productivity**
- competitions enable business and education to **benchmark** against national and international standards of performance



Competition Timeline 2023

27 February to 24 March **Registration**

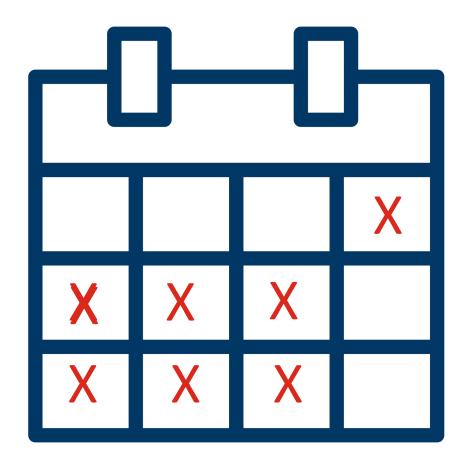
Ongoing to 12 May **Entry Stage**

Up to 30 June **National Qualifiers**

13 July Announcement of Finalists

September to October Finalists Development Training

November **UK National Finals** world**skills**uk excellence at work



Competition Stages



	25-35	TeamUK 💥	
No. of competitors	100 +	Squad/Team Development	The progression of competitors/teams to join the selection process for Squad UK for WorldSkills is subject to meeting criteria such as age eligibility; performance and competing in the correct competition and level
	550 +	National Finals	Take place over in November and build on the complexity and challenge of the regional heats and test skills and competence against peers in a competitive, time limited environment to industry standards, showcasing excellence in skills and compete to be the best in a particular skill
	2,500 +	National Qualifiers	Competitors are entered in Spring to participate in a local competition or online test during Spring/Summer. Highest scoring competitors in each skill are invited to take part in the UK national final
	3,000 +	Entry stage	National Competitions are open to learners, apprentices and employees from 16 years + and should be either working towards or have recently completed Level 2, 3 or 4 qualifications in their related skill. This involves a simple online/remote test or task
	Circa 15,000 +	Pre-competition activities	Pre-competition activities are encouraged to support and prepare competitors for their participation in passive stages and heats. This could take the form for inter and intra college competitions and employer engagement

Embedding in the Curriculum





Curriculum Links





Intent:

- New methodology for assessment
- Assess technical and theoretical knowledge
- Re-enforcing prior learning
- Demonstrating skills, knowledge and behaviours
- Soft skills development
- Distance travelled



Implementation:

- Design and planned into curriculum model
- Sequenced alongside curriculum
- Aligned to qualifications and / or apprenticeship frameworks
- Teaching, learning and Assessment model
- Integrate elements of competition and pressure tests within schemes of work and lesson plans.



Impact:

- Skills Development
- Robust assessment
- Gatsby Benchmarks
- National and International sharing of best practice

Benefits of Taking part





Learners / Apprentices

- Improves personal, technical and employability skills
- More likely to complete their courses and achieve qualification goals
- Has a positive effect on their ambition and aspirations for their future career
- Inspires them to complete higher-level training
- Raise aspirations both directly for those who take part and more widely for other learners around them



Tutors & trainers

- Greater scope for creativity in teaching, training and learning techniques
- Opportunities to benchmark and learn from others
- Great for continuing professional development extending pedagogical skills and knowledge
- Personal recognition and development opportunities to become competition judges, coaches and experts
- Heightened awareness of current technical developments and skills needs in industry.



Colleges & training providers

- Supports the move from competence to excellence
- Provides evidence for inspections
- Delivering skills that underpin economic competitiveness
- National and international benchmarking and experience
- Enhanced organisation reputation and recruitment of learners

Benefits of taking part



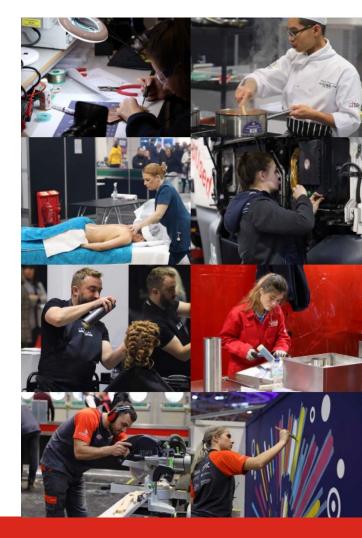
For Learners:

- improves personal, technical and employability skills
- more likely to complete their courses and achieve qualification goals
- has a positive effect on their ambition and aspirations for their future career
- inspires them to complete higher-level training.

97% of previous entrants say they improved their technical skills93% said they improved their personal and employability skills90% said they could apply the skills they developed

For Tutors and trainers:

- greater scope for creativity in teaching, training and learning techniques
- opportunities to benchmark and learn from others
- great for continuing professional development extending pedagogical skills and knowledge
- personal recognition and development opportunities to become competition judges, coaches and experts.



Embedding in the Curriculum Timeline



April – May Self Assessment Report and Quality Improvement plans

July Sequenced in Schemes of Learning

September

Promotion at Welcome days / Freshers fairs

October- December

Local competition activity

February Register for WorldSkills UK

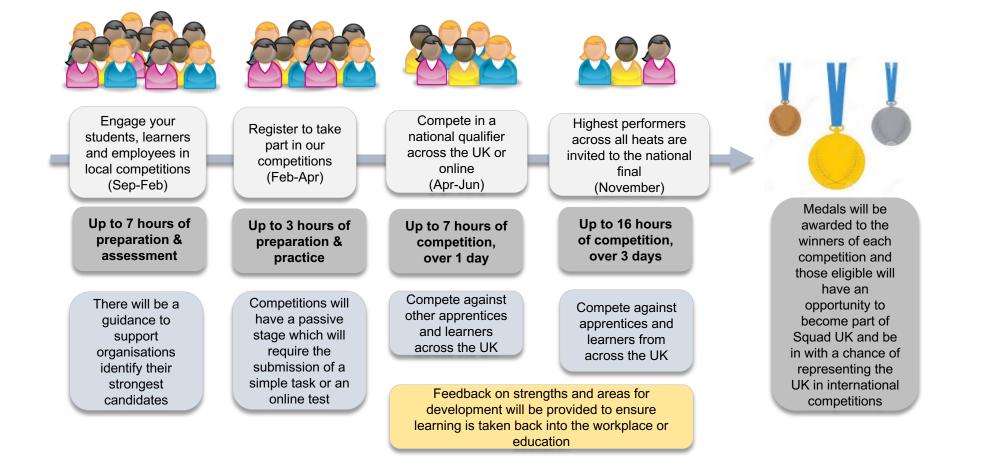


Classroom to Competitions

WorldSkills UK Competitions

A learners' journey





Making skills competitions work for you





Pre-competition activity, Development Excellence Programme

2 Learning Lab



Embedding into curriculum planning & delivery



Inspection Frameworks





Grade descriptors for behaviour and attitudes

"There are many examples of commitment beyond the basics, for example high participation in skills competitions or social action projects."

💋 Estyn

"Inspectors should consider the nature and extent of additional learning opportunities. For example, educational visits, participating in occupational skills competitions, achieving additional qualifications and charity and fund raising events"



Although competitions are not mentioned explicitly in the **Education Scotland** and **Northern Ireland Education** and Training Inspectorate inspection frameworks, they can contribute to inspection criteria on motivating and engaging learners to enhance their own learning and acquiring industry relevant skills.

Supported by our network











Thank you

