

# Where to start with assessment qualifications for your organisation?

Oonagh Taylor and Ruth Pugh

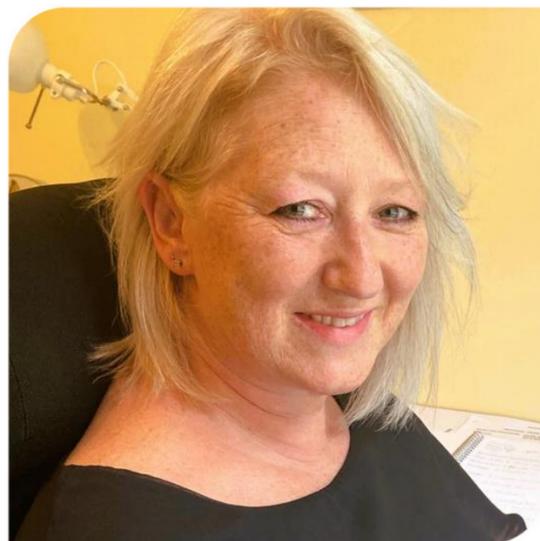
Skills for  
Justice



# Speakers



Oonagh Taylor joined Skills for Justice in April 2022, working in education for most of her career she has a proven track record of managing the learning, teaching activities, and outcomes for all types of learners within a number of specified curriculum areas, alongside the justice sector. She is responsible for project managing and delivering a range of projects across the wider organisation, including supporting our work with the National Probation Service and the National Crime Agency.



Responsible for project managing and delivering a range of projects across the wider organisation, Ruth liaises with our contacts within the Justice and Health sectors including the National Probation Service, National Crime Agency Police Ombudsman of Northern Ireland, Fire and Rescue Services and Scottish Ambulance Service. Addressing all elements of Quality Assurance from strategic planning, CPD events, awareness training, competency frameworks and the delivery of qualifications. Consultancy and business development identifying customer needs, proposing effective solutions and supporting the general development of the workforce.

# About Skills for Justice

Skills for Justice is a not-for-profit organisation, registered as a charity in the UK as part of parent organisation The Workforce Development Trust.

Skills for Justice was established as the Sector Skills Council for the UK Justice sector, providing consultancy and research to meet operational requirements. We remain a leading standard setting organisation for the sectors we serve.

We support justice, fire and rescue, defence and local authority sector employers and are the trusted partners of hundreds of organisations, delivering workforce development and planning, training, quality assurance, audits, strategy development, leadership and organisational programmes, coaching, research and evaluation.

## Our vision

Improving lives through better skills and better jobs, delivering better services.



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[skillsforjustice.org.uk](https://skillsforjustice.org.uk)

# Introduction



What will we be covering?

- What are the qualifications within the TAQA suite?
- Assessor qualifications
- Internal Quality Assurer qualifications
- How do these qualifications underpin learning and development functions?

# What are assessment qualifications?

Assessment qualifications are formal qualifications for those who take part in assessing or quality assuring learners.

If you are delivering regulated qualifications:

This is a regulated and mandatory part of the learning process when you are delivering regulated qualifications (eg regulated by Ofqual).

If you are delivering other training to organisational or other standards:

It is best practice to have trained assessors and quality assurers for all learning and training - whether it takes place in an educational setting, or within a workplace setting.

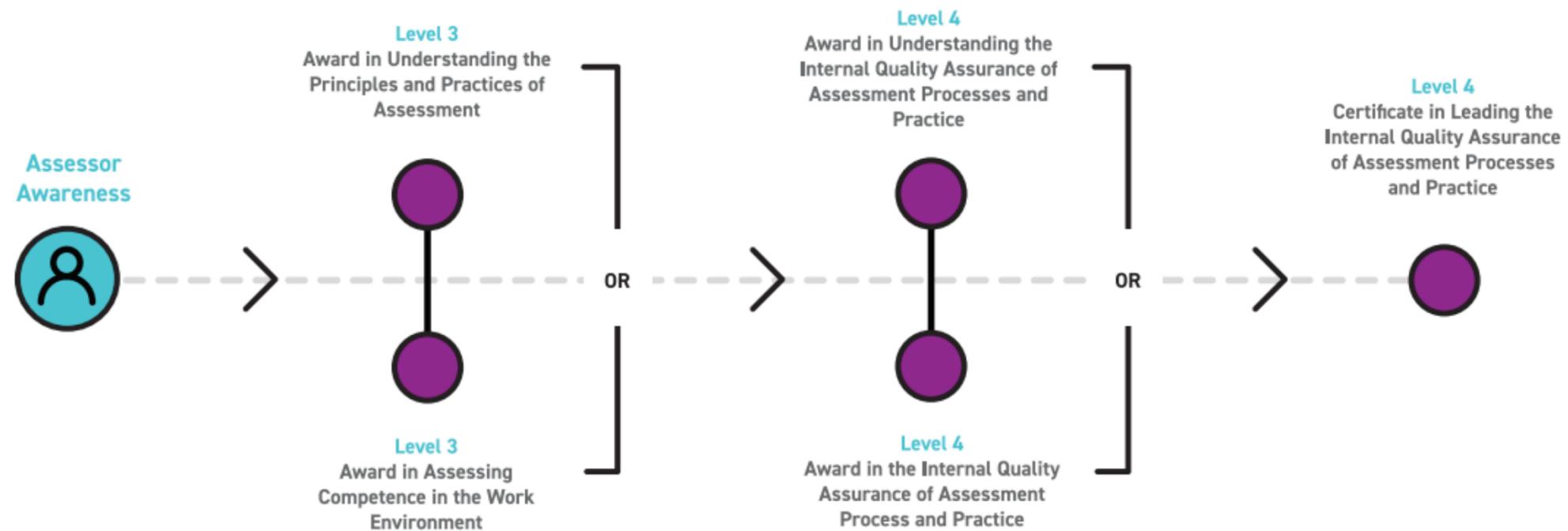


# What are the qualifications within the TAQA suite?

Assessment qualifications are often referred to as the TAQA suite. TAQA is a blanket term for a group of qualifications. The acronym TAQA stands for Training, Assessment, and Quality Assurance.

CAVA is a well-known acronym for one of these TAQA qualifications – the Level 3 Certificate in Assessing Vocational Achievement. CAVA is the most popular in colleges and formal educational settings, but is not always the most appropriate for those assessing solely in a workplace environment.

Assessment qualifications are split between level 3 qualifications, which qualify those who work as assessors (full time or as part of a larger role), and level 4 qualifications, which qualify those who carry out Internal Quality Assurance.



# Level 3 qualifications within the TAQA suite

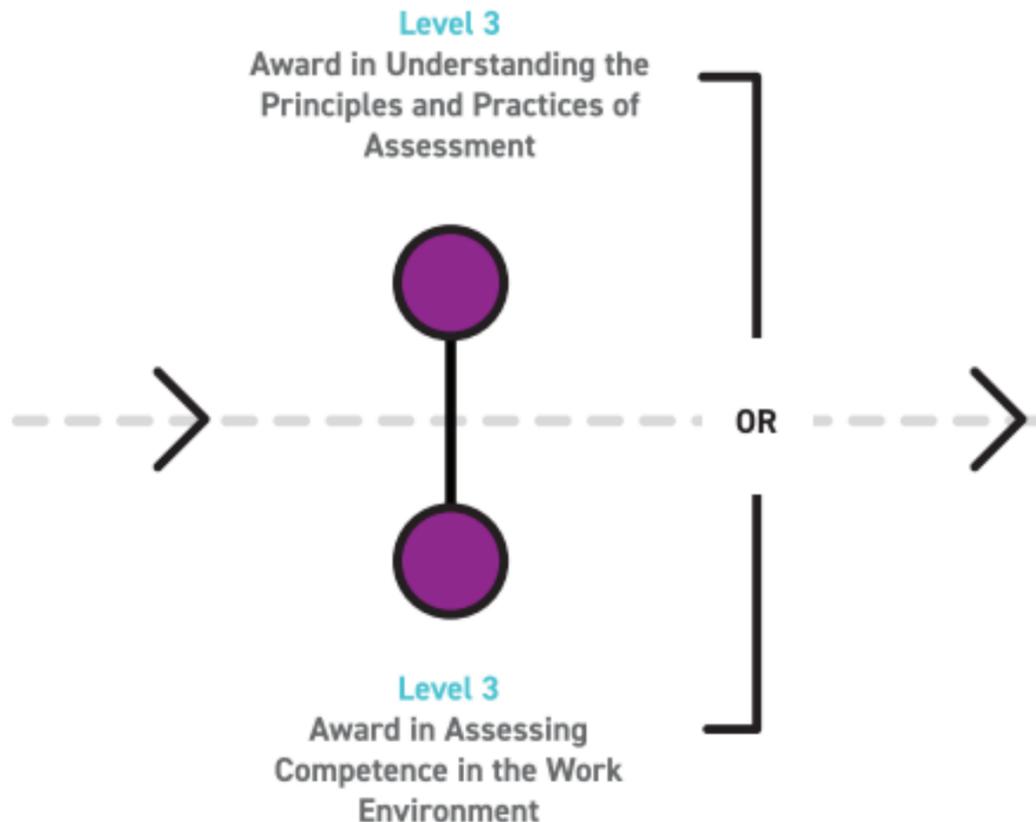
**At Level 3, there are three units, with four possible combinations to become qualifications.**

The first is the theory unit 'Understand the principles and practices of assessment', which can be taken as a standalone qualification to gain a **Level 3 Award in Understanding the Principles and Practices of Assessment**.

The second unit, 'Assess occupational competence in the work environment' plus the theory unit, creates the **Level 3 Award in Assessing Competence in the Work Environment** qualification.

The third unit, 'Assess vocational skills, knowledge and understanding', plus the theory unit create the **Level 3 Award in Assessing Vocationally Related Achievement**.

By taking all three units, you can achieve the **Level 3 Certificate in Assessing Vocational Achievement** - otherwise known as CAVA.



# Unit information

Unit 302: Assess Occupational  
Competence in the Work Environment  
(6 credits)

Unit 301: Understanding the  
Principles and Practices of  
Assessment (3 credits)

Unit 303: Assess Vocational Skills,  
Knowledge and Understanding (6  
credits)

Level 3 Award in Understanding the  
Principles and Practices of Assessment

The first is the theory unit 'Understand the principles and practices of assessment', which can be taken as a standalone qualification to gain a [Level 3 Award in Understanding the Principles and Practices of Assessment](#)

# Unit information

Unit 302: Assess Occupational  
Competence in the Work Environment  
(6 credits)

Unit 301: Understanding the  
Principles and Practices of  
Assessment (3 credits)

Unit 303: Assess Vocational Skills,  
Knowledge and Understanding (6  
credits)

Level 3 Award in Understanding the  
Principles and Practices of Assessment

Level 3 Award in Assessing Competence in the Work Environment

The second unit, 'Assess occupational competence in the work environment' plus the theory unit, creates the [Level 3 Award in Assessing Competence in the Work Environment](#) qualification.

# Unit information

Unit 302: Assess Occupational  
Competence in the Work Environment  
(6 credits)

Unit 301: Understanding the  
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Unit 303: Assess Vocational Skills,  
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Level 3 Award in Understanding the  
Principles and Practices of Assessment

Level 3 Award in Assessing Competence in the Work Environment

Level 3 Award in Assessing Vocationally Related Achievement

The third unit, 'Assess vocational skills, knowledge and understanding', plus the theory unit create the [Level 3 Award in Assessing Vocationally Related Achievement](#).

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Unit 302: Assess Occupational  
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Level 3 Award in Understanding the  
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Level 3 Award in Assessing Competence in the Work Environment

Level 3 Award in Assessing Vocationally Related Achievement

Level 3 Certificate in Assessing Vocational Achievement

By taking all three units, you can achieve the [Level 3 Certificate in Assessing Vocational Achievement](#) - otherwise known as CAVA.

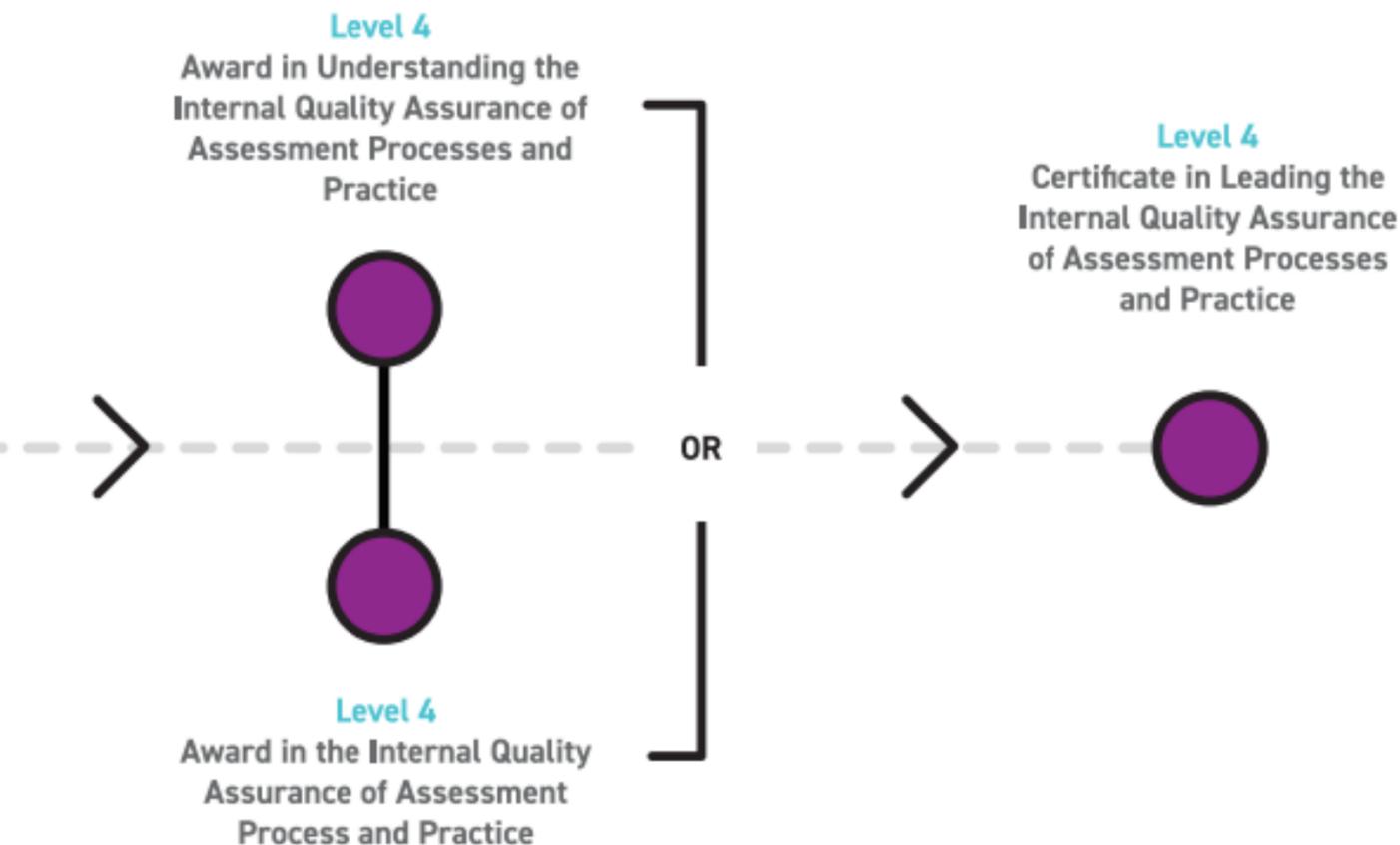
# Level 4 qualifications within the TAQA suite

**At Level 4, there are three units. Each unit stacks to create a new qualification.**

The first unit is the theory unit 'Understand the principles and practices of internally assuring the quality of assessment', which can be taken as a standalone unit to gain a **Level 4 Award in Understanding the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice**.

The second unit, 'Internally assure the quality of assessment' plus the theory unit, creates the **Level 4 Award in the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice** qualification.

The third unit, 'Plan, allocate and monitor work in own area of responsibility', plus the two units above create the **Level 4 Certificate in Leading the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice**.



# Unit information

Unit 1: Understanding the principles and practices of internally assuring the quality of assessment (6 credits)

Unit 2: Internally assure the quality of assessment (6 credits)

Unit 3: Plan, allocate and monitor work in own area of responsibility (5 credits)

Level 4 Award in Understanding the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practices

The first unit is the theory unit 'Understand the principles and practices of internally assuring the quality of assessment', which can be taken as a standalone unit to gain a [Level 4 Award in Understanding the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice](#).

# Unit information

Unit 1: Understanding the principles and practices of internally assuring the quality of assessment (6 credits)

Unit 2: Internally assure the quality of assessment (6 credits)

Unit 3: Plan, allocate and monitor work in own area of responsibility (5 credits)

Level 4 Award in Understanding the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practices

Level 4 Award in the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practices

The second unit, 'Internally assure the quality of assessment' plus the theory unit, creates the [Level 4 Award in the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice](#) qualification.

# Unit information

Unit 1: Understanding the principles and practices of internally assuring the quality of assessment (6 credits)

Unit 2: Internally assure the quality of assessment (6 credits)

Unit 3: Plan, allocate and monitor work in own area of responsibility (5 credits)

Level 4 Award in Understanding the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practices

Level 4 Award in the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practices

Level 4 Certificate in Leading the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practices

The third unit, 'Plan, allocate and monitor work in own area of responsibility', plus the two units above create the [Level 4 Certificate in Leading the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice](#).

# How do these underpin learning and development?

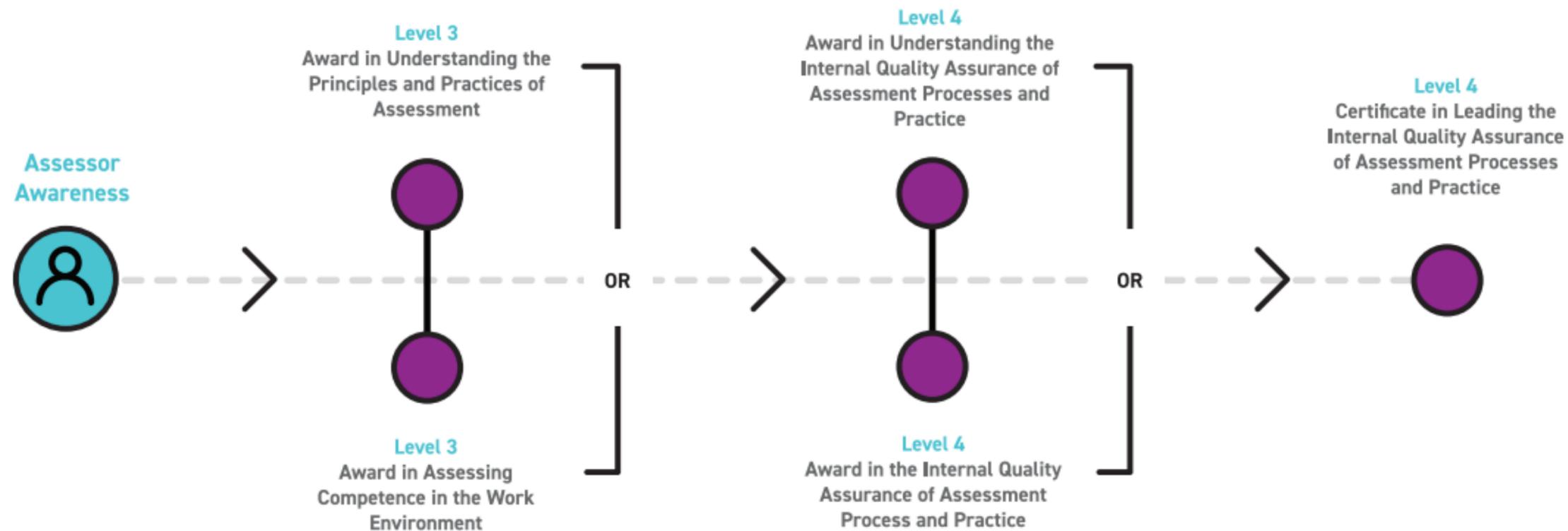
- Benefits to individuals who wish to improve their skills
- Benefits to organisation to demonstrate standards
- Regulatory requirements
- Best practice requirements

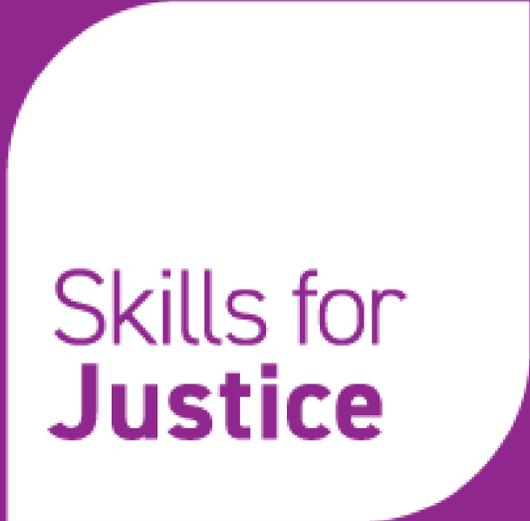
Assessment qualifications in practice - who have we worked with



# Summary

- Assessment qualifications are formal qualifications for those who take part in assessing or quality assuring learners.
- Assessment qualifications are often referred to as the TAQA suite. TAQA is a blanket term for a group of qualifications. The acronym stands for Training, Assessment, and Quality Assurance.
- **At Level 3, there are three units, with four possible combinations to become qualifications. These are for Assessors.**
- **At Level 4, there are three units. Each unit stacks to create a new qualification. These are for Internal Quality Assurers.**





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**The  
Workforce  
Development  
Trust**

