

## EDI accredited to award three Diplomas

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EDI is pleased to announce that it has been formally accredited by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA) as a Diploma Awarding Body. From September 2009, EDI will be awarding Diploma Principal Learning qualifications at levels 1, 2 and 3 for the following areas:

- Business, Administration and Finance
- Society, Health and Development
- Hospitality and Catering

Enhancing EDI's fast growing range of services, these qualifications demonstrate the company's flexibility and commitment to learning, from schools and colleges to training providers and employers. EDI already offers a broad range of accredited qualifications in over 200 subject areas, as well as working with schools to provide online performance measures and assessments.

Intended to provide an alternative to the traditional GCSEs and A levels for 14 to 19 year olds, the content of the Diploma is closely related to industry requirements. Over the past few years, EDI has been working in close partnership with major employers to accredit and quality assure their in-house training programmes. Transferring this experience to the delivery of Diplomas will ensure that standards are set high and of the best possible value to employers.

In preparation for the introduction of the Diplomas, EDI has also worked with the QCA to launch *The Project* and *The Extended Project*, two new qualifications aimed at 14-19 year olds. Forming a compulsory part of the new Diploma qualification, both Projects are also available as nationally accredited qualifications in their own right. Linking into the aims of the Diploma and the 14-19 education agenda, both qualifications encourage students to develop the skills required for further education and working life. In addition, EDI has been working with schools and training centres across the UK to pilot a new Functional Skills Diploma qualification at Levels 1 and 2.

Gareth Phillips, Strategy Director of EDI plc commented: "We are delighted that all of our applications to award Diploma qualifications have been successful. We are already accredited to offer Additional Specialist Learning and The Project at all three levels and now will be able to offer the full Diploma qualifications from September 2009. This opportunity demonstrates our long term investment in the schools market and we are looking forward to working closely with schools and colleges as they implement our Diploma qualifications. We also strongly believe in helping students prepare for life in the workplace and wish them all the very best as they embark on the new 14-19 courses."

For more information on the Diploma lines and other qualifications awarded by EDI please email: [enquiries@ediplc.com](mailto:enquiries@ediplc.com) or telephone: 08707 202 909.