



**Institute for Apprenticeships
& Technical Education**

Higher technical qualification submission form

Awarding body information

Awarding body information

What is the name of the awarding body?

New College Durham

Is the awarding body a higher education provider?

Yes

Is the awarding body on the Office for Students register?

Yes

Qualification information

Qualification information

You can only submit one qualification for each form. If you are submitting multiple qualifications you must start a new form for each qualification. Please include the name of the qualification as it appears on Ofqual register or UCAS. Include the size of the qualification. e.g. award, certificate, diploma

What is the name of the qualification?

FdSc Computing with Networking

Is the qualification on the Ofqual register?

No

If the qualification is not regulated by Ofqual, the organisation owning the qualification must be OfS regulated. This is typically the case of qualifications from Higher Education Providers. For organisations which are Ofqual regulated, the specific qualification must be on the Ofqual register for the application to be progressed. The form will not prevent continuing if this is not completed, but your application cannot be progressed by the approval managers following submission if the awarding organisation is regulated by Ofqual but the qualification is not.

What is the level of the qualification?

Level 5

Route and occupational standards

Route and occupational standards

Awarding bodies must demonstrate that a qualification will enable a person to demonstrate that they have attained as many of the knowledge, skills and behaviours set out in the standard as may be reasonably

expected by undertaking a course of education.

Please note:

- Qualifications will only be considered for approval against occupational standards approved by the Institute.

If qualifications have optional units or pathways, we will only approve qualifications where every possible combination of units/ pathways ensures that a learner achieves competence in at least one occupation for which there is a standard. Qualifications with optional units that do not ensure this should be redesigned or remove optional units that do not align to occupations.

Awarding bodies must fill out all sections of this form. They must also submit supporting documentation to provide evidence of the following:

- The content of the qualification (for example, the specification of content)
- Evidence of employer engagement in the development and validation of the qualification (for example this could be within the qualification design and validation documentation that was used through the development of the qualification which evidences where and how employers were involved)

Which route does the qualification fall under?

Digital

Which occupational standards are aligned to the qualification?

Network engineer/Level: 4

Attach documents

Please attach the following documents:

- The content of the qualification (for example, the specification of content)
- Evidence of employer engagement in the development and validation of the qualification (for example this could be within the qualification design and validation documentation that was used through the development of the qualification which evidences where and how employers were involved)

Network engineer

Network engineer

Knowledge, skills and behaviours coverage within the qualification

Please identify which knowledge, skill and behaviour statements from the occupational standard are covered within the qualification.

Where knowledge, skill and behaviour statements are covered, please provide a reference to the qualification content. This should be a unit or module reference along with associated page/paragraph/line numbers (as appropriate) in the attached specification. Please be as specific as possible which content in the qualification aligns to the statement in the standard.

Where knowledge, skill or behaviour statements are partially covered or not covered, you will be asked to provide a rationale for the exclusion of this content from the qualification. The employer engagement evidence provided should support this rationale.

The following questions assess how knowledge, skill and behaviour statements from the occupational standards are covered within the qualification.

This page has automatically generated an item for each knowledge, skill and behaviour statement (KSB) contained within the chosen standard. So please do not remove or add any further KSBs, as it requires the exact number.

KSBgenerator

KSB

KSB 1

K1 The causes and consequences of network and IT infrastructure failures.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Switching, Routing and Wireless Essentials page 13-15 Modification Document

KSB 2

K2 The architecture of typical IT systems, including hardware, OS, server, virtualisation, voice, cloud, and applications.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Personal and Professional Development 1 page 69-71 Validation Document, Introduction to Networks page 5-7, Switching, Routing and Wireless Essentials page 13-15 and Enterprise Networking, Security and Automation page 20-22 Modification Document

KSB 3

K3 The techniques for systems performance and optimisation.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Enterprise Networking, Security and Automation page 20-22 Modification Document

KSB 4

K4 Diagnostic techniques and tools to interrogate and gather information regarding systems performance.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Switching, Routing and Wireless Essentials page 13-15 Modification Document, Enterprise Networking, Security and Automation page 20-22 Modification Document

KSB 5

K5 Organizational procedures to deal with recording information effectively and in line with protocols.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document, Enterprise Networking, Security and Automation page 20-22 Modification Document

KSB 6

K6 Service Level Agreements (SLAs) and their application to delivering network engineering activities in line with contractual obligations and customer service.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Personal and Professional Development 1 page 69-71 Validation Document: NA apprentices will demonstrate their understanding of SLAs in this module, Personal and Professional Development 2 (Security Case Development) page 101-103 Validation Document.

KSB 7

K7 Their role in Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Personal and Professional Development 1 page 69-71 Validation Document, Switching, Routing and

Wireless Essentials page 13-15 Modification Document, Enterprise Networking, Security and Automation page 20-22 Modification Document

KSB 8

K8 The purposes and uses of ports and protocols.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Enterprise Networking, Security and Automation page 20-22 Modification Document

KSB 9

K9 Devices, applications, protocols, and services at their appropriate OSI and/or TCP/IP layers.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Introduction to Networks page 5-7 Modification Document, Cybersecurity Operations page 27-29 Modification Document

KSB 10

K10 The concepts and characteristics of routing and switching.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Switching, Routing and Wireless Essentials page 13-15 Modification Document

KSB 11

K11 The characteristics of network topologies, types, and technologies.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Switching, Routing and Wireless Essentials page 13-15 Modification Document, Enterprise Networking, Security and Automation page 20-22 Modification Document

KSB 12

K12 Wireless technologies and configurations.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Switching, Routing and Wireless Essentials page 13-15 Modification Document

KSB 13

K13 Cloud concepts and their purposes.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Personal and Professional Development 1 page 69-71 Validation Document, Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document

KSB 14

K14 Functions of network services.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Introduction to Networks page 5-7 Modification Document

KSB 15

K15 The different types of network maintenance.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Personal and Professional Development 1 page 69-71 Validation Document, Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document, Introduction to Networks page 5-7 Modification Document

KSB 16

K16 How current legislation relates to or impacts occupation.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Personal and Professional Development 2 (Security Case Development) page 101-103 Validation Document

KSB 17

K17 Troubleshooting methodologies for network and IT infrastructure.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Switching, Routing and Wireless Essentials page 13-15 Modification Document, Enterprise Networking,

KSB 18

K18 How to integrate a server into a network.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Personal and Professional Development 1 page 69-71 Validation Document, Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document

KSB 19

K19 The types of security threats to networks and IT infrastructure assets.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Personal and Professional Development 2 (Security Case Development) page 101-103 Validation Document, Cybersecurity Operations page 27-29 Modification Document

KSB 20

K20 How to use tools to automate network tasks.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Enterprise Networking, Security and Automation page 20-37 Validation Document

KSB 21

K21 Approaches to change management.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Personal and Professional Development 1 page 69-71 Validation Document, Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document

KSB 22

S1 Apply the appropriate tools and techniques when securely operating and testing Networks.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document, Cybersecurity

KSB 23

S2 Install and configure the elements required to maintain and manage a secure Network.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Introduction to Networks page 5-7 Modification Document, Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document

KSB 24

S3 Implement techniques to monitor and record systems performance in line with defined specifications.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document

KSB 25

S4 Maintain security and performance of the system against known and standard threats.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document, Enterprise Networking, Security and Automation page 20-22 and Cybersecurity Operations page 27-29 Modification Document

KSB 26

S5 Apply the appropriate tools and techniques to identify systems performance issues.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document, Enterprise Networking, Security and Automation page 20-22 and Cybersecurity Operations page 27-29 Modification Document

KSB 27

S6 Apply the appropriate tools and techniques to gather information to troubleshoot issues and isolate, repair or escalate faults.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document, Enterprise Networking, Security and Automation page 20-22 and Cybersecurity Operations page 27-29 Modification Document

KSB 28

S7 Communicate outcomes of tasks and record in line with organisational procedures and SLAs including adherence to good customer service standards.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Personal and Professional Development 1 page 69-71 Validation, Personal and Professional Development 2 (Security Case Development) page 101-103 Validation Document, Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document

KSB 29

S8 Upgrade, apply and test components to systems configurations ensuring that the system meets the organisation's requirements and minimises downtime. This should include backup processes.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document, Introduction to Networks page 5-7, Switching, Routing and Wireless Essentials page 13-15 Enterprise Networking, Security and Automation page 20-22 Modification Document

KSB 30

S9 Record task details whether face-to-face, remote or in writing in line with organisational requirements.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Personal and Professional Development 1 page 69-71 Validation, Personal and Professional Development 2 (Security Case Development) page 101-103 Validation Document, Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document

KSB 31

S10 Interpret information received from a manager, customer or technical specialist and accurately implement the defined requirements.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

KSB 32

S11 Monitor, identify and implement required maintenance procedures.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document, Switching, Routing and Wireless Essentials page 13-15 Enterprise Networking, Security and Automation page 20-22 Modification Document

KSB 33

S12 Implement techniques to optimise systems performance in line with defined specifications.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document, Enterprise Networking, Security and Automation page 20-22 Modification Document

KSB 34

S13 Organise and prioritise clients/stakeholders' requests in line with SLAs and organization processes.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Personal and Professional Development 1 page 69-71 Validation Document, Personal and Professional Development 2 (Security Case Development) page 101-103 Validation Document, Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document

KSB 35

S14 Explain their job role within the business context to stakeholders to enable a clear understanding on both sides of what their remit is and convey technical constraints in appropriate language considering accessibility and diversity implications.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Personal and Professional Development 1 page 69-71 Validation Document, Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document

KSB 36

S15 Operate securely and apply the appropriate process, policies, and legislation within their

business responsibilities.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 1 (Legislation, regulations and ethical standards) page 75-77 Validation Document, Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document, Cybersecurity Operations page 27-29 Modification Document

KSB 37

S16 Communicate with a range of stakeholders taking into consideration of organisations cultural awareness and technical ability.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 1 (Legislation, regulations and ethical standards) page 75-77 Validation Document, Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document

KSB 38

S17 Apply the appropriate level of responsibility when planning and prioritizing work tasks.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document

KSB 39

S18 Apply the relevant numerical skills (Binary, dotted decimal notation) required to meet the defines specifications.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document, Introduction to Networks page 5-7 Modification Document

KSB 40

S19 Ensure compliance of network engineering outputs with change management processes.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Personal and Professional Development 1 page 69-71 Validation Document, Work Related Learning 2

(Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document

KSB 41

S20 Select the appropriate tools and comply with organisation policies and processes when upgrading systems.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document, Introduction to Networks page 5-7, Switching, Routing and Wireless Essentials page 13-15 Enterprise Networking, Security and Automation page 20-22 Modification Document

KSB 42

B1 Work independently and demonstrate initiative being resourceful when faced with a problem and taking responsibility for solving problems within their own remit.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document, Introduction to Networks page 5-7, Switching, Routing and Wireless Essentials page 13-15 Enterprise Networking, Security and Automation page 20-22 Modification Document

KSB 43

B2 Work securely within the business.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document

KSB 44

B3 Work within the goals, vision, and values of the organisation.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document

KSB 45

B4 Take a wider view of the strategic objectives of the tasks/ projects they are working on including the implications for accessibility by users and diversity.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document

KSB 46

B5 Works to meet or exceed customers' requirements and expectations.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document

KSB 47

B6 Identifies issues quickly, investigates and solves complex problems and applies appropriate solutions. Ensures the true root cause of any problem is found and a solution is identified which prevents recurrence.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document, Introduction to Networks page 5-7, Switching, Routing and Wireless Essentials page 13-15 Enterprise Networking, Security and Automation page 20-22 Modification Document

KSB 48

B7 Committed to continued professional development to ensure growth in professional skill and knowledge.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Personal and Professional Development 1 page 69-71 Validation

KSB 49

B8 Work effectively under pressure showing resilience.

Is the statement covered within the qualification?

Fully covered

Where within the qualification is the statement covered?

Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment) page 112-114 Validation Document

Additional occupationally relevant content

Additional occupationally relevant content

Item 1

As well as the content aligned to the knowledge, skills and behaviours in the occupational standard, the qualification can include additional occupationally relevant content which is deemed of value to employers. Awarding bodies are asked to justify any content that does not directly align to the occupational standard, using evidence from employers.

Content should be identified at a unit or modular level and each item should be added separately by using the Add Item button. If the qualification does not include any additional content, please leave this section blank.

Unit or module containing additional content

Object Oriented Programming

Please give a short description of the additional content

This module includes opportunities for apprentices to develop an understanding of the concepts of procedural programming

Where within the qualification is the additional content covered?

Page 86-88 Validation Document

Please provide an explanation of how the content is relevant to the occupation, including evidence from employers that supports its inclusion in the qualification.

Network engineers may need to maintain fault logs and other software systems in their job role. This module enables them to develop the basic skills involved in designing, writing and testing a relatively simple programme.

Item 2

As well as the content aligned to the knowledge, skills and behaviours in the occupational standard, the qualification can include additional occupationally relevant content which is deemed of value to employers. Awarding bodies are asked to justify any content that does not directly align to the occupational standard, using evidence from employers.

Content should be identified at a unit or modular level and each item should be added separately by using the Add Item button. If the qualification does not include any additional content, please leave this section blank.

Unit or module containing additional content

Database Design and Development

Please give a short description of the additional content

This module includes opportunities for apprentices to develop an understanding of relational databases

Where within the qualification is the additional content covered?

Page 96-98 Validation Document

Please provide an explanation of how the content is relevant to the occupation, including evidence from employers that supports its inclusion in the qualification.

Network Engineers will need an understanding of relational database systems in their role for systems such as fault logging, asset tagging, etc. The module further develops students to develop a solution to a given problem.

Item 3

As well as the content aligned to the knowledge, skills and behaviours in the occupational standard, the qualification can include additional occupationally relevant content which is deemed of value to employers. Awarding bodies are asked to justify any content that does not directly align to the occupational standard, using evidence from employers.

Content should be identified at a unit or modular level and each item should be added separately by using the Add Item button. If the qualification does not include any additional content, please leave this section blank.

Unit or module containing additional content

Software Development Methods

Please give a short description of the additional content

Introduces students to a range of systems development methodologies

Where within the qualification is the additional content covered?

page 132-134 Validation Document

Please provide an explanation of how the content is relevant to the occupation, including evidence from employers that supports its inclusion in the qualification.

Network Engineers need to understand a range of systems development methods in order to properly analyse problems and propose solutions whether these be software or hardware.

Assessment methods

Assessment methods

Please confirm that the assessment covers all of the content relevant to the knowledge, skills and behaviours in the occupational standard.

Yes

Please outline the methods used to assess the content and provide a rationale for why these methods are valid for the qualification.

Personal Professional Development 1: Assessed by a Personal Development Project enables apprentices to identify personal KSB gaps, source appropriate CPD and engage in Independent Learning demonstrating effective implementation of a personal development plan and ensuring an ability to show current and future employers the ability to independently learn and apply new knowledge and skills as required in the computing sector

Work Related Learning 1 (Legislation, regulations and ethical standards): Assessed with a Research Project ensuring the ability to maintain currency in legislation, regulations and ethical standards which is appropriate as standards and regulations change and apprentices must be able to keep up to date. Also assessed with an Interview/presentation to ensure apprentices are able to relate the key concepts and benefits appropriate to their job role, the apprenticeship standard and ISO standards

Introduction to Networks: this module incorporates Cisco CCNA v7 exams and is assessed by a Practical Skills Exam and Report and Cisco Online Exams.

Database Design & Development: Assessed with development of appropriate design documents, report and product which appropriately enables apprentices to applying appropriate analysis of a problem and design a solution with associated design documents, build and test documents, the product and an evaluative report. The assessment is contextualised to the apprenticeship standard and apprentice job role where appropriate.

Switching, Routing and Wireless Essentials: this module incorporates Cisco exams and is assessed by a Practical Skills Exam and Report and Cisco Online Exams. The assessments aim is to ensure deep knowledge and understanding and the ability to appropriately apply skills.

Object Oriented Programming: Assessed through the development of appropriate Design Documents for a solution to a given problem and the developed programme with fully documented code.

Personal Professional Development 2 (Security Case Development): Apprentices will submit a Security Case Project and deliver a Presentation to demonstrate all of the learning outcomes which are contextualised to their job role and apprenticeship standard.

Work Related Learning 2 (Risk Assessment): Assessed by Report, Product and Interview/Presentation covering all of the module outcomes and ensuring the flexibility to contextualise the assessment against the apprentice job role and the standard. Apprentices will engage in a project in their workplace approved by the module tutor and apprentice skills coordinator to provide the evidence for this module.

Enterprise Networking, Security and Automation: this module incorporates Cisco exams and is assessed by a Practical Skills Exam and Report and Cisco Online Exams. The assessments aim is to ensure deep knowledge and understanding and the ability to appropriately apply skills.

Advanced Database Concepts: Assessed by report, product and time constrained assessment which is appropriate to demonstrate sufficient competence in relational databases.

Cybersecurity Operations: this module incorporates Cisco exams and is assessed by a Practical Skills Exam and Report and Cisco Online Exams. The assessments aim is to ensure deep knowledge and understanding and the ability to appropriately apply skills.

Software Development Methods: This module is assessed by presentation to ensure apprentices understand how to effectively implement an appropriate systems development methodology for a given business scenario justifying not only the chosen method, but also why others were eliminated from consideration.

The range of assessment methods are appropriate to the modules and have been developed to prepare apprentices to become work ready and allow for contextualisation to the apprentice's job role and their apprenticeship standard where appropriate. The vast majority of learning is made up of hands on practical activities conducted in the Cisco lab which includes cisco cabinets enabling students to design, build and test networks and the cyber security lab which includes an isolated network to allow students to carry out security checks, ethical hacking and penetration testing activities in a safe way. All modules are developed to enable contextualisation to ensure apprentices are able to be assessed for all of the KSBs detailed in the apprenticeship standard.

Employer engagement

Employer engagement

Please describe how employers and industry practitioners were consulted throughout the development of the qualification, including:

- the process of identifying and recruiting relevant employers
- how employers were involved in the development, review and validation of the qualification materials.

Please describe how employers and industry practitioners were consulted throughout the development of the qualification.

All Foundation Degrees are designed in collaboration with employers from the computing & digital sector with an interest in the specific course knowledge skills and behaviours. Additionally, it is an essential requirement of validation that an employer with expertise in the subject as well as a subject specialist academic is a member of the validation panel.

Focus Groups

All foundation degrees in computing have been mapped to the associated standard and so already have a significant employer contribution. When designing a Foundation Degree, a focus group is established to encourage employers to consider the knowledge skills and behaviours they value from students who achieve.

Discussions among the employers help to ensure that in addition to relevant and valid modules, learning outcomes are sufficiently clear to ensure the standards are met and sufficiently vague to allow the content within the modules to be contextualised to a higher apprentice job role. This ensures that the higher apprentice has the opportunity to cover the knowledge, skills and behaviours required by the standard between the foundation degree and work based learning.

In developing the FdSc Computing with Networking Foundation Degree, employers from the following organisations contributed to the design in preparation for validation and/or have provided positive support throughout delivery of the course:

Leighton Group

British Airways

Opta

NVIDIA
British Telecom
Fujitsu
Durham County Council
Waterstons
Durham Police

The Validation of all Foundation Degrees at New College Durham requires that all validation documents are scrutinised by an employer from the associated sector and an academic who specialises in the subject. Both the employer and the academic sit on the Validation Panel and interrogate the curriculum team regarding subject content, assessment methods, employer engagement activities, relevance to apprenticeship standards where appropriate and academic standards in relation to the UK Quality Code and QAA. Validation is only approved when the panel is fully satisfied that the Foundation Degree content, assessment methods, occupational relevance and academic standards are assured.

Please refer to:

- Stage 2, item (ii), page 2
 - Stage 1, paragraph 2, page 5
 - Questions for the panel to consider, item (iv) page 6
 - Stage 2, paragraphs 2 and 3, page 7
 - Documentation required Notes, item (ii) page 9
 - Stage 4, paragraph 2 page 13
- of the attached Validation Process Document