

Foreword	1
Introduction	2
Acknowledgements	3
How to Use the Materials	4
Section 1 FENTO Standards and Examples of Excellent Practice	5
Section 2 Using Observation to Identify Stages of Individual Performance	53
Section 3 The Mentoring Process	127
Index	185





By John Healey, Minister for Adult Skills.

I commend to you this best practice pack on mentoring, which has been designed to help improve the quality of teaching and learning within further education. The focus of the pack is, first, to identify the key characteristics of an excellent teacher in further education and second, to suggest how such excellent teachers can encourage others towards excellence.

The pack is in two parts:

- materials
- guide.

It was commissioned under the standards fund by the Further Education Funding Council in the last year of its operation, and developed by the Association of Colleges and the Further Education National Training Organisation. They have worked with 29 colleges representing every region in England.

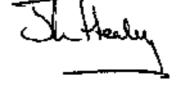
The materials show the breadth of good practice on mentoring currently taking place in colleges. It contains examples of how to use the FENTO teaching standards to identify and develop excellent practice in teaching and learning and also examples of teacher-mentors in practice. It includes mentoring in information learning technology and mentoring in personal tutorship.

The accompanying guide brings together the views of 700 students, 70 teachers, and principals across the country, with those of leaders of national education organisations and of colleges abroad. It summarises what they believe are the key characteristics of an excellent teacher.

I hope that you will welcome the activities and recommendations contained in this pack, and use it to improve your own practice and the practice of teachers in your organisation and most of all that it will help to improve the experience and success of your learners.

I recommend the pack for your use. It is an outcome of fruitful collaboration between the AoC and FENTO, and another example of how further education colleges continually strive to improve further the quality of the individual learner's experience.

I thank the AoC and FENTO and the participating colleges for developing this pack on mentoring. I value their contribution to the Government's agenda of raising the standards of education through developing excellence in further education teaching.



Introduction

Introduction

The Mentoring towards Excellence materials are for colleges working to improve the quality of teaching and learning by ensuring more teachers become excellent practitioners.

The materials were developed by 29 colleges working in partnership with the Association of Colleges (AoC) and the Further Education National Training Organisation (FENTO). The two organisations made successful bids for the work to the Further Education Funding Council. Colleges then worked in regional groups to undertake research and produce materials. In addition, interviews were conducted to find out what college principals and senior representatives from national and international organisations were doing to develop excellent teachers. Teachers themselves were asked what they thought an excellent teacher should be and do. Most importantly, learners were asked about what they believe are the characteristics of an excellent teacher. The views of principals, other representatives, teachers and learners can be read in the introductory booklet.

Materials in the folder use the FENTO standards for teaching and supporting learning as a starting point to describe the attributes of an excellent practitioner. Examples of current practice in colleges then illustrate how the observation of teaching and learning and mentoring can be used to improve every teacher's performance.

There are two parts to the materials: the Introductory Booklet, and the Portfolio of Materials.

The portfolio is in three sections:

Section 1: FENTO Standards and Examples of Excellent Practice

Section 2: Using Observation to Identify Stages of Individual Performance

- a framework for observation
- · criteria for measuring effective teaching and learning
- using observations to identify stages of individual performance
- recording observations
- providing constructive feedback
- evaluating observation
- identifying and developing mentors

Section 3: The Mentoring Process

- establishing a framework
- operational guidelines
- mentoring in practice

Suggestions for the use of the materials follow this introduction.

This is a timely publication which coincides with the Teachers' Pay Initiative (TPI) where colleges will need to be able to identify and develop the excellent practitioner.



Acknowledgements

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Barnet College

Brockenhurst College

Bury College

Cambridge Regional College

Canterbury College

City College, Birmingham

Colchester Institute

Derby Tertiary College, Wilmorton

East Surrey College

Exeter College

Guildford College of Further and Higher Education

Highbury College, Portsmouth

Macclesfield College

The Mary Ward Centre

North Lindsey College

The Peoples College, Nottingham

Preston College

Richmond Adult and Community College

Richmond upon Thames College

Runshaw College

South Birmingham College

South Nottingham College

Stockton and Billingham College of Further Education

Strode College, Somerset

Sutton Coldfield College

Thanet College

Thomas Danby College

West Cheshire College

Yeovil College





How to Use the Materials

Section 1:

FENTO standards and examples of excellence

- a. A teacher seeking promotion puts together an individual portfolio of evidence to support her application using the FENTO standards and examples in Section 1 to provide ideas on what might be included.
- b. A human resources manager uses the published standards and section/materials to draw up job and person specifications for programme area leaders, and for mentors.
- c. A continuous professional development team uses the examples to help plan a programme for strong teachers wishing to reflect on and improve their own practice.
- d. Managers and teachers prepare for appraisal by comparing with the standards and examples, strengths and weaknesses identified through the observation of teaching and learning.

Section 2:

Using observation to identify individual stages of performance

- a. A programme area leader uses materials in Section
 2 to work with her team to plan a series of peer
 observations. They then use materials in Section 3 to
 devise a peer mentoring scheme.
- b. A quality improvement manager uses the materials to review and improve his own college's approach to observation of teaching and learning.
- c. The continuous professional development team works together on the materials then decides to adopt a more systematic approach to analysing and using the outcomes of observations undertaken by department teams.
- d. The team responsible for observation of teaching and learning uses the materials to evaluate the criteria used to judge the quality of teaching and learning in their college. As a result, they decide to concentrate much more on students' learning and less on the teaching.

Section 3:

The mentoring process

- a. The college's management team uses the material to clarify what it wants a mentoring programme to achieve, and then to draw up job and person specifications for mentors.
- b. A team of mentors uses the materials to review and evaluate their own work. As a result, they decide to meet more regularly to share good practice and tackle common issues.
- c. The quality improvement manager uses the material to plan a training event about different types of mentoring. The programme area leaders taking part are invited to adopt one or two approaches for use with their teams.
- d. A group of teachers uses the materials to find out more about mentoring so they can contribute effectively to plans for a mentoring scheme.





Section 1: FENTO Standards and Examples of Excellent Practice

Introduction

In this section, evidence of excellent practice is listed against a range of FENTO standards. Three sources of evidence are used:

- a. observation: what does the excellent teacher do?
- b. indicative documentation: what kind of documentation supports excellent practice?
- c. feedback and evaluation: what other evidence helps to identify excellent practice?

Colleges need to bear in mind that documentation, however good it is, does not guarantee excellent practice. It is what teachers do with learners that counts.

How to Use this Section

The materials are best used in conjunction with the published FENTO standards for teaching and supporting learning. In the tables that follow, the left-hand column provides a description of what an excellent teacher might do in relation to a given standard.

The excellent teacher will be achieving for most of the time some of the practice described here. As a reflective practitioner committed to continuous improvement, he or she will be actively working towards achieving the rest.

The questions below suggest ways in which colleges might use the standards and examples.

Questions to consider:

- How might your college use the standards and examples to strengthen its observation of teaching and learning?
- How might your college use the standards and examples to prepare improvement plans for individual teachers?
- How might your college use the standards and examples to inform the planning of a mentoring programme and identification of potential mentors?





A - Assessing Learners' Needs

A1 - Identify and plan for the needs of potential learners

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will: demonstrate recognition and understanding of the previous learning experiences and achievement of learners	 records of initial assessment of prior learning and recognition of previous achievements learner agreement which builds on previous achievements 	 guidelines on admissions criteria policy on APL student surveys
enable learners to review their past learning experiences in order to identify strengths and areas for new learning	 records of initial assessment identify strengths and new learning required assessment processes and materials which assist learners in doing this individual learning plans which take account of initial assessments 	students clear about their strengths and what new learning is needed
 quickly recognise when specialist assessment is required, and know how to make a referral to the right agency or individual ☆ 	 referral guidelines thorough records of specialist referrals system which ensures information about assessment is passed to the right staff 	 numbers of students receiving rapid referrals for specialist assessment placed on right course with the appropriate support students understand purposes of specialist assessment, and how it will be conducted students involved in the assessment process and understand the outcomes
provide ready and skilful support for learners whilst they deal with unfamiliar circumstances	 guidelines on welcoming students as part of assessment process student material is accessible and 'user friendly' 	students express satisfaction with pre-course and assessment process evaluation of drop-out rates pre- course students see as welcoming the physical environment used for assessment



A1 - Identify and plan for the needs of potential learners (continued)

always assist learners to explore and articulate their personal aspirations	 assessment materials and processes enable students to express their aspirations information about progression maps and likely destinations helps students plan ahead guidance materials provide information about the qualifications or courses required for students' chosen careers 	students clear about their longer- term goals and how they can be achieved
quickly and accurately identify and arrange any exemptions to which learners are entitled	 clear criteria for exemptions information accessible to relevant staff 	 students gain the right exemptions with minimum fuss or delay students do not repeat learning unnecessarily
provide accurate and relevant information to colleagues, and negotiate skilfully with them to ensure students' learning needs can be met	 format for information is easy-to-follow by other staff teaching materials, lesson plans take account of information provided 	 other teachers make good use of information provided to develop learning programmes other teachers seek advice from the excellent teacher on how best to meet learning needs

Examples

☆ Quickly recognises when specialist assessment is required

A basic skills teacher quickly picks up during initial interview that Mr Bennett has difficulty hearing what is said to him. During their low-key conversation about early experiences of learning, the teacher asks whether Mr Bennett had experienced any physical difficulties with learning. She says she noticed he leans one side of his head towards her as she speaks. Mr Bennett is relieved she has raised the issue and readily tells her about his hearing impairment. The basic skills teacher refers Mr Bennett to the college's specialist teacher for the deaf who undertakes assessments. The specialist teacher provides advice for the basic skills team on how best to work with Mr Bennett. In addition, Mr Bennett happily joins a lip-reading class.

Provides ready and appropriate support for learners dealing with unfamiliar circumstances

An HE Access course team leader met new students individually for a cup of tea and chat as part of their initial assessment. The meetings took place in her quiet, pleasant room and provided an opportunity for students to ask questions and explore any anxieties or concerns. The team leader was a trained counsellor, and used some of her counselling skills to put students at ease and provide 'time out' for them to reflect on the experience of joining college. Students commented that they felt welcomed and supported; they appreciated a time being set aside just for them. The meetings also enabled the team leader to identify early and deal with any financial, childcare or other concerns that might get in the way of a student's success on the course.





A - Assessing Learners' Needs

A2 - Make an initial assessment of learners' needs

Observation	Initial documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will: • consistently devise, select and apply the right diagnostic technique for the individual student	variety of diagnostic tools and processes to suit a variety of individual needs	outcomes of initial assessment enable individual learning goals to be identified
always select and apply the right method for assessing previous learning experiences and achievements of a wide range of learners	repertoire of methods	learners' previous experiences and achievements accurately assessed and used as starting points for new learning
understand a wide range of selection criteria for learning programmes, and be able to compare the outcomes of initial assessments with these criteria	well-documented selection criteria thorough records of initial assessments	students understand how outcomes of assessment are used to select learning programmes
quickly understand and take account of the implications of a disability or learning difficulty for an individual's learning, and readily confer with specialist teachers or support staff	 records of support requirements description of how disability/ learning difficulty may affect learning lesson plans take account of individual's requirements records of regular reviews of support arrangements 	student retention and achievement student and staff satisfaction with support arrangements
always ensure learners understand the requirements and limitations of a programme	 information about programmes is accessible and easy to use by students guidance on assessment process ensures students receive explanation about the programme 	feedback from learners that information helped them understand requirements of programme learners clear about the subjects a learning programme will include, how they will be expected to learn, and how much work will be involved students clear about the qualifications or destination achieved at the end of a programme



A2 - Make an initial assessment of learners' needs (continued)

always select the right assessment technique to suit the selection criteria of an identified programme, and readily involve support staff when it would be helpful •	 collection of assessment strategies linked to specific programmes assessments tailor-made for specific programmes guidance on how to select and use assessments 	 programme teachers involved in designing programme-specific assessments students see relevance of assessments to chosen programme teachers receive sufficient information about skill levels of potential students
always prepare and carry out initial assessment effectively by choosing the right environment and ensuring the learner understands the purposes of the assessment	guidelines on undertaking assessment	 available advocacy support for learners learner feedback
provide detailed, constructive feedback on outcomes of assessment; assist the learner to reflect on the process and outcomes; find more suitable programme when needed	 guidelines on assessment records of feedback numbers of students found alternative programmes 	learner feedback student retention
accurately match outcomes of assessments against programme's selection criteria in order to direct the learner to the most appropriate programme	 records of students' placements on programmes retention and achievement data 	 staff feedback on placements on programme student feedback
work collaboratively with colleagues and specialist staff throughout the assessment process ☆ see examples overleaf	course team reviewsself-assessment report	feedback from colleagues and specialist staff





A2 - Make an initial assessment of learners' needs (continued)

Examples

Selects and uses the right assessment technique

The college's initial assessment co-ordinator had worked with vocational staff in six vocational areas to develop assessment tests tailor-made to each course. Part of the assessment for hairdressing NVQ level 1 involved a short practical task in the salon.

☆ Works collaboratively with colleagues

As part of its inclusive learning work, a college undertook a skills analysis of five vocational programmes. The aim was to identify the levels of literacy, numeracy and IT skills required by each programme. The learning support coordinator then worked with vocational staff to develop assessments which would tell staff whether students had the right levels of skills.

★ Ensures learners understand the requirements and limitations of a programme

A teacher on an engineering programme has put together a booklet for students, to explain their course. The booklet describes the different course units and explains the methods of teaching and learning used on the programme. The booklet lists the topics to be covered each term and the assignments students will need to complete. At the start of the programme, students from the previous year make brief presentations to the new group. The teacher then goes through the booklet, leaving time for questions. Students say the session helps them know what to expect.





B – Planning and Preparing Teaching and Learning Programmes for Groups and Individuals

B1 - Identify the required outcomes of the learning programmes

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will: • always identify realistic individual learning outcomes that take account of the student's starting point	individual learning plans	 student retention and achievement data student satisfaction surveys
always devise syllabuses, objectives and schemes of work that enable individual learning outcomes to be achieved	curriculum documentation, including course/programme aims and objectives, syllabus schemes of work	student retention and achievement data
accurately analyse the knowledge, technical skills and skills required by a subject, including the levels of basic skills or key skills required in order to succeed on the programme	curriculum skills analysis	staff feedbackstudent feedback
 decide how best to meet validating and awarding bodies' requirements whilst taking into account individual learning needs☆ 	 policy on the use of awards criteria for selecting appropriate awards individual learning goals 	 reports from external assessors student achievement data
imaginatively integrate the teaching of basic skills and key skills into the learning programme	schemes of work lesson plans	student achievement data review of students' progress in basic/key skills

Example

Meets validating and awarding bodies' requirements and takes account of students' learning needs

A catering lecturer working with a group of NVQ level 1 students decided not to enter three students for the award. He decided the most important learning for these students was social and emotional learning. They needed to learn to turn up on time, behave responsibly with equipment and work collaboratively with other students. He devised individual behaviour targets and a learning plan for each student based on their learning needs. Once the students had reached these targets, they began to work toward the NVQ award.





B - Planning and Preparing Teaching and Learning Programmes for Groups and Individuals

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will: demonstrate a well-developed understanding of learning theory by teaching and reinforcing new concepts, and planning opportunities for students to transfer their learning into new settings	lesson plans and materials	student achievements student feedback
systematically break down learning into small steps, with short and longer-term targets to match students' capacities	individual lesson planslesson plans	
always help learners develop a wider range of effective learning styles in order to tackle new learning tasks	 assessments of learning styles lesson plans which encourage development of new learning strategies 	
regularly use teaching methods which take account of different learning styles☆	lesson plans and materialsrecords of observation	student achievementsstudent feedback
constantly help learners 'learn how to learn' by developing their skills of analysis, problem solving, synthesis and other 'thinking skills'	lesson plans and materials	student achievementsstudent feedbackstaff feedback
teach learners how best to learn independently, in small groups and as a whole group	lesson plans records of observation	 student feedback student achievement and progression data including progression to higher levels of study
consistently use a mix of individual, small group and whole group teaching as appropriate to suit expected learning outcomes	lesson plansvideo record of teaching	student feedback



☆ see examples overleaf



B2 - Identify appropriate teaching and learning techniques (continued)

systematically develop generic study skills such as essay or report writing, giving a presentation, revision and exam technique systematically develop generic	lesson plansschemes of work	 student progression to higher levels of study student achievements
always use open and prompt questions to develop and check understanding; use 'teaching by asking' rather than 'teaching by telling'	lesson plansvideo record of teachingrecords of observation	student feedbackstudent progress

Examples

★ Uses teaching methods which take account of different learning styles

An experienced GCSE English teacher always plans four kinds of activities for each lesson. The activities are: speaking, reading, listening and writing. By planning activities which use each skill, she enables students to build on their strengths and to develop and practise weaker skills.

O Develops generic study skills

During induction, A level History students discuss a set of criteria for effective essay writing. They then use the criteria to self-assess their own written work. The teacher uses the criteria to mark the same work. Teacher and student identify which criteria have not been met. These are then turned into 'learning goals' for the next piece of writing.





B – Planning and Preparing Teaching and Learning Programmes for Groups and Individuals

B3 – Enhance access to, and provision in, learning programmes

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will:		
 develop and maintain the right relationships with those who co- ordinate the links between other institutions and the organisation, and across different curriculum areas 	 self-assessment report action plans minutes of meetings with co- ordinators, other institutions and agencies 	 feedback from co-ordinators, other institutions feedback from students on benefits of links
demonstrate effective involvement in the design and implementation of activities to improve access to learning programmes, including the use of ICT.	plans for activities	increased student participation
actively promote a culture of open access and widening participation by, for example, working within the principles of inclusive learning	 self-assessment report inclusive learning action plan widening participation action plan 	 student feedback increased participation of new groups of learners
 successfully plan to avoid potential barriers to participate in learning programmes 	individual learning programmeslesson plans	analysis of student participation
design realistic taster sessions so that potential students can find out about the programme before committing themselves	taster programme	student feedbackstudent take-up of programmes following taster
make the best use of resources to widen participation whilst being realistic about constraints	 records of allocation of resources participation targets set and achieved examples of innovative practice 	• 'value for money' surveys



B3 – Enhance access to, and provision in, learning programmes (continued)

Example

© Effectively involved in the design and implementation of activities to improve access to learning programmes

Riaz, a basic skills co-ordinator, initiated a family literacy scheme at the local primary school. He worked closely with the primary school headteacher to identify parents who might benefit. Together, they developed an information and marketing policy. The co-ordinator then worked with the college school liaison manager to set up the programme which was quickly over subscribed.

A programme area leader has led the design of course materials suitable for students using ICT. Students can access the materials on the college website. This allows them to work for part of the course from home or the workplace, making it easier for students with other responsibilities to take part in learning.





C – Developing and Using a Range of Teaching and Learning Techniques

C1 - Promote and encourage individual learning

Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
records of initial assessmentsindividual learning plans	student feedback
records of learning goalsindividual student records	student records and achievement
 learning policy, 'learning to learn' strategy teaching materials individual action plans independent learning assignments 	student progress and achievement
 teaching and learning materials resource bank of materials at different levels 	student feedbackstudent progress
induction programmelesson plansindividual learning plan	student progress
guidelines for developing learning contractstutorial guidelines	student feedbackfeedback from tutorial sessions
 records of learning records of progress 	student progressstudent feedbacktutorial records
	 records of initial assessments individual learning plans records of learning goals individual student records learning policy, 'learning to learn' strategy teaching materials individual action plans independent learning assignments teaching and learning materials resource bank of materials at different levels induction programme lesson plans individual learning plan guidelines for developing learning contracts tutorial guidelines records of learning



C1 - Promote and encourage individual learning (continued)

Examples

O Helps learners develop as independent learners

An A level History teacher identifies easier factual material for students to learn independently. The learning is assessed and students receive coaching in working independently as they work on the assignment.

A teacher has used part of the inclusive learning materials to identify the skills students require if they are to succeed on her NVQ programme. At the start of the course, the teacher works with each student to identify the skills he or she needs to develop. Individual targets are then agreed with each student and recorded in the student's portfolio. The teacher asks students to tell her when they think they have reached a target. She then checks and if she agrees, the achievement is recorded. Students like being able to assess for themselves when they have reached a target and enjoy comparing their assessment of their own progress with the teacher's.





C – Developing and Using a Range of Teaching and Learning Techniques

C2 - Facilitate learning in groups

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will: always select the right learning opportunities for group activities	lesson plansgroup assignments	teacher's self-evaluationstudent feedback
always ensure learners understand the rules, expectations and ways of working in groups	course induction materiallesson plansgroup assignments/tasks	student feedback
use excellent interpersonal skills and the use of humour to establish an atmosphere of trust conducive to effective group work	record of observation	student feedback
create imaginative learning plans that encourage group work by taking into account the abilities, interests and needs of students	learning plans	student feedbackstudent progress
encourage learning by skilful group management including timely and effective interventions	video record of teaching session	student feedback
actively encourage learners to learn from each other by devising collaborative exercises which challenge the group and extend individual teachers	collaborative exerciseslesson plans	student feedback external assessor's feedback
intervene effectively and support individual learners involved in group activities to check learning is taking place	individual records of progressvideo record of group session	student attendance and punctuality for group activities
always challenge inappropriate behaviour or language which prevents other students from learning, or which contravenes equal opportunities policies	equal opportunities policiesinduction materialstudent charter	student feedback
	1	



C2 - Facilitate learning in groups (continued)

devise high quality learning support materials and use other resources, including ICT, to provide exciting learning opportunities	learning support materialssoftware	student feedback
systematically and rigorously evaluate the effectiveness of learning and modify teaching plans where required	records of reviewsself-assessmentsmodified plans	student progress
always provide constructive feedback to the group and to individuals in order to encourage learning	video record of group sessionrecord of reviews	students' marked work
make imaginative use of available resources to promote effective group work	lesson plans	room layout and storage of learning materialsvisual displays

Examples

Ensures learners understand the rules, expectations and ways of working in a group

As part of their on-course induction, students on a business studies course brainstorm a set of 'dos and don'ts' for group work. Their teacher uses paired and small group activities for the session. She asks the students to think about how effectively they worked together on the tasks, for example, who did most of the talking? The group then turn the brainstorm into a set of rules for all their group activities.

★ Encourages learning by skilful group management

An experienced A level Maths teacher observes that an able student, Sandip, is always silent when the class tackle paired or small group activities. He notices that Sandip is usually alone at break-times, and rarely talks to other students. In a quiet chat, Sandip tells him he finds it very difficult to speak in a group. The teacher plans a group session where each student must take turns to feedback from an activity. Before the session, he reassures Sandip that he has plenty to contribute. The teacher makes sure Sandip's personal tutor knows how Sandip feels, and that other teachers encourage him to make a contribution in group work.





C – Developing and Using a Range of Teaching and Learning Techniques

C3 - Facilitate learning through experience

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will: constantly demonstrate his or her understanding of the value of learning through experience	curriculum documentationschemes of worklesson plans	• self-assessment
instil in students a belief that what they are learning will make a difference to their lives	tutorial recordsstudent feedback	student focus group
often identify learning objectives which can be learnt through practical activities	schemes of worklesson plansindividual learning plans	student retentionstudent punctuality
often plan imaginative, inspiring experiences to develop and reinforce learning☆	curriculum documentationlesson plansindividual learning plan	links with other organisations, for example, community groups, employers
 provide frequent opportunities for students to demonstrate and practise their skills in real life settings 	 work experience arrangements record of student placements record of use of specialist facilities 	student achievement
 actively encourage students to identify personal experiences which enhance their learning 	lesson plansteaching materials	student feedbackstudent progress
 provide the right support for teaching from experience whilst encouraging students to take appropriate risks 	guidelines for practical/real-life activities records of visits to work placements	student feedbackhealth and safety checks
 provide feedback on teaching from experience that is timely, detailed and constructive to support and inform the learning process 	student progress	students' marked work



C3 - Facilitate learning through experience (continued)

systematically and rigorously	modified teaching plans	• self-assessment
review the effectiveness of		course reviews
learning from experience and		
modify teaching plans as		
necessary		

Examples

Actively encourages students to identify personal experiences which enhance their learning

A group of childcare students were investigating the nature/nurture theory by reflecting on their own experiences in childhood and their philosophy about parenthood. The teacher managed the activity sensitively, allowing individuals to explore relevant experiences in a safe and supportive atmosphere. Open questions were used to encourage individuals and the group to probe cause and effect and to challenge accepted norms.

Plans imaginative, inspiring experiences to develop and reinforce learning

The tutor for a course of students with learning difficulties worked with the students to establish a small allotment and greenhouse in the college grounds. The allotment provided practical opportunities for students to develop literacy and numeracy skills as they planned the session's work, divided responsibilities for different tasks, found out about the growing seasons of vegetables, and measured rows for sowing seeds.





D1 - Establish and maintain an effective learning environment

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will: • demonstrate a passion and commitment for learning at all times	lesson observations	student progressstudent perception survey
always provide a stimulating secure physical setting	health and safety check	self-assessment reportstudents' views
display students' work creatively in order to stimulate learning and reinforce its value	lesson plansstudents' work	students' feedbackfeedback from colleagues and visitors to the college
 encourage innovation, creativity, motivation and the engagement of the learner in the learning process 	lesson planslearning materials	use of other resources, including ICT
recognise at an early stage the individual learning styles and needs of the learner and build on these to overcome barriers to learning	initial assessmentsindividual learning plans	student progress
always expect high standards of conduct, and identify and deal promptly with inappropriate behaviour	student code of conduct	student feedbackpunctuality rates

Examples

Displays students' work in order to stimulate learning

A childcare teaching room 'bursts' with students' creative work so that the visitor is drawn into the world of the child. The display is mainly work produced by children working with students at a local nursery placement. Students pick up new ideas from the displays to try in their own placements.

★ Encourages innovation, creativity and motivation

A teacher on an animal husbandry course encouraged his students to offer their services to local primary schools, pet clubs and the local rare breeds farm park. Students visited schools and clubs to give talks on animal care, and assisted workers at the farm park and clubs to look after rare sheep and pigs. Last year, two students were offered jobs at the farm park.







D2 - Plan and structure learning activities

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will:		
 always plan learning experiences which relate to students' own lives 	• lesson plans	student feedbackstudent progressretention rates
systematically use up-to-date labour market information to improve students' employability	local employment data local skills trend information	links with employers employment destinations
always work with colleagues to help students understand the relation between different chunks of learning	minutes of team meetingsjoint assignmentsschemes of work	student progress and achievements
 systematically share the outcomes of students' assessments and reviews with relevant staff 	 pro formas for conveying information review minutes lesson plans which take account of this information 	student progressstaff feedback
 regularly use strategies including constructive feedback to actively encourage learners to take responsibility for their own learning 	lesson plans marked work	student feedback
as a matter of course, devise or select high quality learning materials to meet the needs of a wide variety of students	learning materials	student feedback
 adapt or select new material to meet the needs of students with sensory impairments, using the expertise of specialist staff where necessary☆ 	adapted learning materials	progress of students with sensory impairments
 provide regular opportunities for learners to reinforce their knowledge and understanding in a variety of settings 	schemes of worklesson plans	student feedback







D2 - Plan and structure learning activities (continued)

actively identify and plan	lesson plans	students' achievements in basic
opportunities for learners to		skills/key skills
improve their basic skills or		
key skills		

Examples

Uses constructive feedback to encourage learners to take responsibility for their own learning

A hair and beauty teacher uses photographs of work through the year to help students review their progress. An exciting wall display shows photographs of students' work on models at different points in the year. Students use the display to review their own progress.

Adapt learning materials to meet the needs of students with sensory impairments, using the expertise of specialist staff

A skilled GCSE History teacher provides large print handouts for a student with visual impairment. The handouts are on off-white paper which the student finds easier to use. The teacher meets the student's support worker each week in order to go through lesson plans and materials, so the worker is well placed to support the student in class. As a result, the student is developing skills to work independently.





D3 - Communicate effectively with learners

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will: • always select and use the right information	schemes of worklesson plans	students' progress and achievement
use a variety of communication methods to convey information clearly and in the way most suitable for the learners and the subject being studied vertical communication	schemes of worklesson plansmaterials	student perception survey
consistently encourage learners to communicate with each other in order to learn	lesson plans	 observations of teaching and learning students student progress and achievement
always take time in every session to talk to individual learners	video record of lesson	observation of teaching and learning
always listen and respond to what learners say	video record of lesson	self-assessment feedback from colleagues
 develop trust and rapport, using humour to establish early communication☆ 	video record of lessonobservation notes	self-assessmentfeedback from colleagues
readily admit when he or she is wrong, or does not know something, and finds out rapidly		student feedback feedback from colleagues

Examples

Uses a variety of communication methods suitable for the learners and the subject

A group of skilled teachers encouraged media students to work with other students in Germany, Greece and Sweden to explore the idea of 'communication between people'. Learners exchanged ideas on the appropriate use of language, subject content, and cultural issues. They developed skills such as using fax and e-mail, meeting deadlines, decision-making and working in groups. The students finished their project by producing a newspaper with a print run of 8,000 copies for distribution to the partner countries.

Developing trust and rapport, and using humour

A skilled teacher working with disaffected young people regularly uses humour to defuse potentially difficult situations. His laid-back, low-key manner and obvious liking and respect for the students help create an atmosphere of trust. The teacher knows the students well and takes time during each lesson to keep up with their news, concerns and successes.





D4 - Review the learning process with learners

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will: • establish an open and trusting relationship with the learner which encourages self-evaluation	tutorial documentation	student feedbacktutorial observation notes
use the review process to encourage learner commitment and ownership of the learning process	review records	• tutorial review
always use open questions to check for understanding	lesson plans	student feedback
 provide regular, systematic, constructive feedback to students 	marked work	student feedback
regularly use personal action planning and tutorial processes to agree targets and monitor progress in an honest and supportive way☆	tutorial records	student progressstudent feedbackself-assessment report

Examples

O Provides regular, systematic feedback

A teacher agrees with each student a schedule of times for individual reviews of progress. Students are also welcome to see the teacher at other stated times in the week.

A teacher designs a feedback sheet for A level essays which gives systematic feedback against a number of criteria including planning, research, relevance of response, quality of response, construction of essay and presentation. The completed sheet is used as a starting point for individual discussion with students.

★ Uses tutorial processes to monitor progress

An experienced tutor always begins an individual tutorial by asking the students for their own evaluation of their progress. She uses open and prompt questions to help the student reach an honest and positive appraisal, which he or she checks against progress reports from teachers.





D5 - Select and develop resources to support learning

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will: • systematically research and promote the use of innovative resources to support learning	lesson plans	 student feedback monitoring data from learning centre student perception survey learning centre self-assessment
regularly work with colleagues to draw on each others' specialist skills and experience in using a wide range of resources for learning	minutes of team meetingslesson plansinternal service level agreements	evaluation of support arrangements
 use ICT imaginatively and as a key support for learning 	support planslesson plans	self-assessmentstudent feedback
regularly assist learners to use resources, including ICT, independently	lesson plans individual learning plans	self-assessment
systematically review the effectiveness of resources and make necessary changes☆	review notescharging back of materials	self-assessmentinspection feedback

Examples

Uses ICT imaginatively and as a key resource for learning

A dyslexic student uses an audiotape to record the main points he wants to include in an essay. He then works with a skilled support teacher who helps him transfer these ideas to a laptop. The student talks through each idea with the teacher, who makes carefully sequenced handwritten notes on his behalf. The student uses the laptop at home to write up the notes.

☆ Systematically reviews the use of resources

Each term, a course team leader asks his team to do a 'mini-audit' of resources, using a checklist to assess how much they are used and to evaluate their effectiveness. A student focus group undertakes a similar activity. As a result of the previous term's exercise, more computers were moved into one classroom, and the furniture rearranged to make it easier to use them.



D6 - Establish and maintain effective working relationships

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will: contribute effectively to the design, development and validation of learning programmes	team development activities	reports from awarding bodiescomments from external assessor
regularly and effectively liaise with external learning providers	 minutes of partnership meetings schedule of employer/college meetings 	 feedback from local schools feedback from employers
systematically contribute to and maintain effective internal communications with all staff	notes of meetingsappraisal records	feedback from colleagues/line manager
establish innovative links and liaise effectively with external stakeholders	plans for parents' eveningsminutes of partnership meetingsself-assessment record	feedback from stakeholders
 work effectively with other organisations and services to promote students' participation, retention and achievement☆ 	 records of meetings with health and social services schedule of meetings with local employers records of use of health/social services to support students 	feedback from local schools and other education and training providers
• regularly work with colleagues to deliver the learning programme.	lesson plansobservation records	schemes of work
negotiate effectively on behalf of learners with colleagues outside the programme	records of discussion and subsequent action	feedback from colleaguestutorial records
regularly share expertise with colleagues and respond to their needs, for the benefit of learners and the learning programme	records of team meetingsdevelopment activitiesmentoring records	feedback from colleagues
 contribute rigorously and constructively to programme review and evaluation 	record of programme review and evaluation, and subsequent action	self-assessment report





D6 - Establish and maintain effective working relationships (continued)

contribute effectively to management information systems and ensure colleagues are given the right information, in the right way, at the right time	MIS examples of data used by colleagues	feedback from MIS managerself-assessment report
always respond positively and constructively to feedback	record of action taken following feedbackappraisal record	teacher's own self-assessment

Examples

Works with colleagues to deliver the learning programme

A team designing OCN units for an Access to Nursing course, works with tutors from the local nursing school to design the programme. Nursing tutors also help deliver the programme and take part in the end of year course review.

☆ Works effectively with other organisations and services

The team leader for discrete provision of students with learning difficulties has established successful relationships with local health and social services. As a result, students receive regular speech therapy and have opportunities to use the hydrotherapy pool at the nearby hospital. Social services staff and teachers work in partnership to devise and deliver training in independence skills for students leaving the course.





D7 - Contribute to the organisation's quality assurance system

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will: understand the quality assurance arrangements in his or her college	QA documentationstaff training recordsstaff induction records	internal auditinspection feedbackself-assessment
 understand inclusive learning and its contribution to good quality provision☆ 	college inclusive learning action plans	QA documentation
set high standards for his or her own practice and use strategies to ensure its quality	self-assessment reportinspection reports	staff appraisalreports of observations of teaching
systematically use national benchmarks to evaluate the quality of provision	• self-assessment	improvement plans
systematically collate and analyse relevant data in order to develop and improve provision	benchmark dataimprovement planscourse team reviews	self-assessment reportinspection reports
demonstrate continual improvements in key performance indicators	benchmarking dataretention and achievement data	inspection reportsself-assessment report
systematically seek and use feedback on the effectiveness of provision from external organisations, including community groups, employers and other providers	surveyscompleted questionnaires	QA documentation
regularly seek and use views of students on the quality of provision	student surveysfocus group records	QA documentation
work with colleagues to use the outcome of review and evaluation to improve learning.	action and improvement plans	



Examples

O Works with colleagues to use the outcomes of review and evaluation to improve learning

A college mentor organised a peer observation programme whereby staff from different subject areas formed 'buddy pairs'. Each teacher had to feedback to his or her subject team one example of good practice observed in another subject area. The example had to be one from which all the team could learn. By carefully selecting the buddy pairs, the mentor helped each subject team to demonstrate their strengths and learn from colleagues.

★ Understands the benefits of inclusive learning

The college's inclusive learning co-ordinator asked the quality improvement director to chair the inclusive learning steering group. Over the last two years, the director has understood more about inclusive learning and integrated the idea into the college's quality improvement strategies.



E - Providing Learners with Support

E1 - Induct learners into the organisation

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will: design and provide a stimulating induction process which welcomes learners to the college, provides the right information about their course and college features and tells them about their rights and responsibilities as students	induction programme	student feedback student retention
 inform learners about the college's health and safety requirements in a way that helps learners understand their importance 	induction programme and material	checks on students' understanding of health and safety requirements
 provide easy to understand individual advice and guidance to students about their courses, any awards to be achieved, likely progression rates and possible destinations 	induction materialstutorial records	student satisfaction surveys
 support the learner in drawing up an individual learning plan based on clearly identified and agreed team goals 	individual learning plans	student feedback records of student progress and achievement
 devise exciting and imaginative activities which help to develop a group identity and sense of belonging 	lesson and tutorial plans	tutorial recordsstudent drop-out data
 accurately assess and provide any additional support required by students finding it difficult to start college 	support plans	student feedback retention data
 carefully review with students the effectiveness of the induction process☆ 	 review of placement on programme records of review and plans for next induction programme 	teacher feedback: students on right course

♦ see examples overleaf





E1 - Induct learners into the organisation (continued)

Examples

O Devises activities to develop a group identity

As part of induction, A level Art students and staff take part in a team-building event where the emphasis is on having fun and getting to know each other. Staff and students work together to plan the day which quickly breaks down barriers.

Assesses and provides additional support through induction

A team working with all entry level groups takes students on a three-day residential as soon as they leave school. The residential experience enables staff to assess students' social and life skills and to work out how best to help each student settle into college.





E - Providing Learners with Support

E2 – Provide effective learning support

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will: always ensure each student's support needs are assessed and the outcomes understood by the student.	assessment recordstutorial records	student feedback
ensure the right learning support is in place early in the student's course	assessment recordssupport plans	student feedbackreview of supportstudent progress
always ensure learners understand their entitlement to support, how to access support, and how to change the support they receive☆	student charter information about learning support, including self-referral	student feedback
always be sensitive to students' emotional needs and arrange support discretely	guidelines on learning support	student feedback
regularly work with colleagues to ensure support is co-ordinated effectively	records of support	inspection feedback
regularly help learners review their course of study and its relevance to their longer-term aspirations	review recordstutorial records	QA documentation
 systematically provide activities and information which enable learners to think about the next steps after their course 	end of course tutorial plansindividual learning plans	student feedbackstudent destinations
plan regular opportunities for students to feedback their views on the organisation	focus group recordslesson planstutorial records	QA documentation

See examples overleaf





E2 - Provide effective learning support (continued)

Examples

Ensures students understand the outcomes of assessment

As part of induction, a tutor collects the results of each student's initial assessment to discuss during an individual tutorial. Even when additional support is not needed, the tutor takes care to explain to the students their performance in the assessment.

Makes sure learners understand their entitlement to support

As part of induction, the learning support co-ordinator and her team provide an information session for new student groups. As well as giving out leaflets about the support services, they show a short video of previous students talking about the benefits of the support they received. The video also shows members of the support team 'in action' with individual students and in classes. Student surveys show that students' perceptions of learning support have become more positive since the sessions began. Students say they are more likely to ask for support if they need it.





E - Providing Learners with Support

E3 - Ensure access to guidance opportunities for learners

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will: ■ play an active part in the design and implementation of guidance processes:	guidance records	retention, achievement and progression datacourse evaluation
readily recognise his or her own strengths and limitations regarding guidance and refer to specialist help when required	 referrals to guidance services schemes of work showing involvement of guidance team 	student feedbackguidance team reportsinspection feedback
actively assist learners to find information about training, employment and educational opportunities using a variety of internal and external sources	 guidance materials records of visits to employers and other organisations 	student feedbackprogression and destination data
use relevant high quality records of achievement to ensure non- academic successes are recorded	records of achievementstudents' portfolios	course tutors' feedback on students entering their courses
collect and analyse information about individual student destination, and use this to improve provision	analysis of destinations and record of subsequent action	improved provision
ensure a wide variety of student success is recognised and celebrated	photographs of prize dayscollege certificates	student and parent feedback

Example

Plays an active part in guidance processes

The subject teacher records each student's career wishes and then updates his or her record on a termly basis.

The aim is to check that career aspirations are matching the programme design and the student's attainments.

Professional careers guidance is arranged when any 'mismatch' between career ambition and student performance is identified.





E - Providing Learners with Support

E4 - Provide personal support to learners

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will: • offer a sensitive response to students' personal support needs by providing formal and informal opportunities for listening and sharing • offer a sensitive response to students' personal support	teacher's recordslesson plans	student feedback
support students or act effectively on their behalf to secure specialist support	records of support for students	student feedback referral records
 provide experienced personal support but be aware of his or her own limitations and know when and how to refer students for specialist support☆ 	referral records	student feedbackevaluation by staff from specialist services
readily understand the range of specialist help available and foster effective links with specialist support staff	information about specialist supportreferral records	feedback from students and colleagues

Examples

Offers a sensitive response to students' personal needs

As part of their guidance programme, experienced outreach workers target socially disadvantaged young people and long-term unemployed adults. A one-stop cyber café provides careers and education guidance on-line for potential learners, with expert staff on hand to offer personal advice on matters such as childcare, housing, health and money.

★ Knows when and how to refer to specialist support

Although Constance is a qualified and experienced counsellor, she recognised quickly that Mick, a mature student, needed psychiatric help for his difficulties. She contacted the local mental health team and went with Mick for his assessment interview. Mick now sees a psychiatric nurse twice a week and also receives medication as part of his treatment. As a result of Constance's rapid action, Mick has been able to rejoin his course.



F – Assessing the Outcomes of Learning and Learner's Achievements

F1 - Use appropriate assessment methods to measure learning and achievement

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will: always select from a range the right assessment methods to match students' learning needs	 resource bank of assessment methods assessment records 	 positive feedback from students students' achievements above national benchmark external verifier's report
always devise assessment processes which take account of students' cultural or social backgrounds, gender, and any disability or learning difficulties	Braille materialsmaterials written in students' own languages	analysis of results to ensure no bias is present
 systematically provide accessible information for students describing the process of assessment, who will be involved, how the assessment will be conducted, and how outcomes will be explained 	student handbooklesson plantutorial records	 course review student feedback external verifier's report
always select assessment strategies which meet the needs of individual learners and awarding bodies	selection criteria for use of assessment strategies	students' achievements
always provide easy to understand explanations of the assessment process to students	 lesson plan handouts for students assessment handbook setting out awarding body requirements and details of assessment process 	student feedback
 readily identify students who require additional support during assessment 	support arrangements records of referrals for support	external verifier's report





F1 - Use appropriate assessment methods to measure learning and achievement (continued)

often use work-based and real- life setting to encourage learning and for assessment activities	• lesson plans	external verifier's report
systematically assist learners to reflect on their learning throughout the assessment process☆	records of progress and achievement	individual reviews student feedback
always organise the right arrangements for assessment and ensure the necessary resources are easily available	procedures for assessmentcourse team review	external verifier reports feedback from students and colleagues
always ensure assessments are conducted fairly	assessment handbookguidelines for assessments	equal opportunities policy
keep up-to-date, accurate records using the right format in order to meet the needs of students, the college, and awarding bodies	student's recordsinspection feedback	 students' achievements assessor's reports reports from awarding bodies
systematically ensure students monitor and review their progress and provide opportunities for students to discuss their assessment records	tutorial recordsrecords of reviews	student feedback
regularly provide detailed feedback to individual learners clearly identifying strengths and weaknesses	tutorial recordslesson plans	student feedback
systematically work with the learner to develop action plans for improvement	student action planschanges to study skills or support programme	student retention, progress and achievement

^{☆ ♦} see examples overleaf







F1 - Use appropriate assessment methods to measure learning and achievement (continued)

Examples

Uses work-based and real life settings

A teacher on an Edexcel national diploma in public services sets an assignment that requires students to research how emergency services respond to a national or international disaster. Students are encouraged to refer to media coverage, as well as approaching the emergency services direct.

Assists the student to reflect on his or her learning

A teacher of HND business studies devised an assessment cover sheet which enables students to assess their own work for strengths and weaknesses, before submitting an assignment. Students are encouraged to predict their likely grades. The cover sheet provides space for the tutor to do the same. Both sets of strengths and weaknesses are used to assist the learner to reflect on the assessment process.





F – Assessing the Outcomes of Learning and Learner's Achievements

F2 - Make use of assessment information

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will: • use effective continuous assessment to ensure learners assess their progress and identify new learning objectives	records of progress in learningreviews of progress	students' progress
regularly review student progress against learning objectives	record of progress against targets setrevised action plan	learner feedback shows understanding of progress made and new targets agreed
systematically use the outcomes of learners' assessments to evaluate and improve their own performance	improved assessmentslessons plans show wider variety of teaching strategies	
systematically use the outcomes of learners' assessments to evaluate and improve the individual learning programme.	analysis of results of assessmentsrevised individual learning programmes	improved retention and achievement
regularly provide accurate, relevant assessment information to employers, learners, parents and the wider community	 course information leaflets report forms publicity material data comparing college results with national average 	governors' reportsinspection reports

Examples

Uses the outcomes of assessment to improve learning outcomes

A successful teacher keeps three-yearly records for an A level English course. This year's achievement figures are higher than before, but student grades are noticeably lower. The teacher analyses individual student achievement on each paper, to determine if any particular paper is causing students problems. A questionnaire is sent to all students seeking feedback both on the exams and the teaching and learning leading up to them.

A motor vehicle lecturer analysed the outcomes of assessment procedures for NVQ level 1 students. She decided that assessments would be more relevant if they were based around interactive CD ROMs rather than handouts and overhead transparencies. The scheme of work, lesson plans and assessment procedures were modified accordingly and achievement increased dramatically.





G - Reflecting Upon and Evaluating One's Own Performance and Planning Future Practice

G1 - Evaluate one's own practice

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will: • demonstrate a detailed understanding of FE relevant to own practice	 appraisal record personal development portfolio includes information on: a. sector funding and organisation b. key organisations and agencies linked with own subject specialism or vocational area curriculum development portfolio includes information on: a. current subject/vocational qualifications and accreditation procedures available b. current entry requirements and progression routes for student in own subject or vocational area 	 links with external agencies/ advisers/verifiers and moderators involvement in externally funded research projects use of pilot material/exemplar resources links with local industry, employer and trade groups, schools, community groups and higher education establishments
understand where and how the subject or vocational area fits within the organisation	personal development portfolio includes information on: a. college organisational structure b. departmental/faculty structure c. college curriculum offer and vocational pathways	 staff handbook feedback from head of department on contribution to departmental organisation and curriculum development membership of and contribution to cross-college teams/ committees/working parties





G1 - Evaluate one's own practice (continued)

regularly analyse current knowledge and skills in relation to the current demands of the job, the changing and national context and future trends or requirements	skills checklistappraisal documentation	CPD portfolioappraisal recordspersonnel
critically analyse his or her own teaching by seeking and using feedback from other teachers, learners, managers and external evaluators	 records of teaching observations student questionnaires/evaluations mentor reports reports from external evaluators personal action plan for future development 	student satisfaction surveys external inspection/moderation reports
regularly evaluate own level of key skills against those required in his or her teaching	 key skills assessment analysis of key skill levels required by course or programme 	key skills co-ordinatorhead of departmentpersonnelCPD portfolio
regularly evaluate and seek to maintain effective relationships with learners, colleagues and other stakeholders which improve their own and their team's effectiveness	 minutes of team meetings departmental minutes internal verifier's reports 	appraisal recordsexternal verifier reportsinspection reports

Example

O Helps teachers critically analyse their own practice

A co-ordinator regularly produces a college broadsheet highlighting good practice drawn from observation of teaching and learning. The broadsheet includes exemplars and raises issues for development. She then brings other teachers together to discuss the issues raised. Teachers often try out the new approaches discussed in this group.

A head of department develops a checklist so that teachers can analyse their own teaching skills under a number of specific headings. The form is confidential, thus encouraging a more open response about individual strengths and weaknesses. The results of the survey are used to tailor-make professional development opportunities and to highlight staff who need more support and mentoring.







G - Reflecting Upon and Evaluating One's Own Performance and Planning Future Practice

G2 – Plan for future practice

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
systematically use information about changes in his or her programme and the wider further education and training context to inform individual and team practice	development portfolio containing: a. information about national issues and initiatives b. up-to-date documentation from LSC, LSDA, QCA, etc. relevant to field of work/FE in general individual training plans minutes of team development activities	 amendments to programme resulting from current information feedback to line manager about current and future developments action plans resulting from team activities
systematically use information on relevant national developments to update and develop own practice practice ■	 curriculum documentation contains: a. information on new qualifications b. proposals for development and implementation c. submissions for new programmes professional development portfolio 	 evaluation of development events feedback to line mangers on proposals for development and submissions for new programmes feedback to other relevant college committees, for example, academic board, internal validation committee records of development activities
systematically take account of new developments in his or her subject	syllabusschemes of worklesson plans	





G2 – Plan for future practice (continued)

- make creative use of available resources
- analysis of the resource needs of new and continuing academic or vocational programmes
- analysis of how new programmes can best use existing resources
- evidence of costing future resource needs for proposed curriculum development
- individual learning plan

- feedback from finance department on overall college budget
- feedback from head of department on budget allocations

Example

Systematically updates and develops own practices

A teacher in media studies researches a significant change in industrial training needs. She conducts a survey of the commercial sector to gather more information on the new skills required. In the light of this analysis she then changes the content and delivery of media courses.





G – Reflecting Upon and Evaluating One's Own Performance and Planning Future Practice

G3 - Engage in continuing professional development

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation
The excellent teacher will: regularly identify his or her own updating needs	personal skills checklistappraisal recordsindividual training plan	feedback from colleagues, external verifiers, industrial/ academic links feedback from appraiser
effectively identify ways of maintaining and updating his or her subject expertise	personal skills checklistappraisal recordsindividual learning plan	links with external organisations feedback from appraiser
seek regular opportunities for relevant professional development based on realistic goals and targets	 professional development portfolio indicates regular personal development relating to subject expertise and professional practice records of teacher undertaking industrial placement, work shadowing or an educational exchange visit with a partner organisation 	evaluation of own personal development and training opportunities taken to update expertise and professional practice feedback and evaluation from industrial placement or partner institution
always seek and use professional development activities relevant to his or her work and to institutional priorities	record of trainingappraisal record	feedback from managers contribution to strategic priorities

Example

Effectively identifies ways of updating expertise

A teacher of construction crafts volunteers to lead a key skills initiative for modern apprentices. He realises his own IT skills are out of date. He attends an IT course in order to lead integration of the three main key skills across the construction craft curriculum.

A lecturer in GNVQ advanced business studies undertakes a works placement and realises that significant changes have occurred in the way companies are planned and managed. She is proactive in sharing the lessons with colleagues. Her activities lead to changes to course content and delivery, the secondment of other colleagues, and a more positive relationship with local industry.





H - Meeting Professional Requirements

H1 - Work within a professional value base

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation	
The excellent teacher will: always organise his or her teaching to help students work more effectively on their own and take more responsibility for personal success	 always organise his or her individual learning plans generic study skills programme during induction lesson plans including search 		
regularly demonstrate through professional practice that learners' diverse experiences and learning needs are recognised and supported	 individual and group profile learning styles profile course content and organisation acknowledges diversity and enables individual outcomes to be achieved 	 tutorial records feedback from colleagues and specialist support staff teaching observations 	
always use a variety of teaching and learning strategies to help learners achieve and incorporate ILT where appropriate	scheme of worklesson plans	student feedback teaching observations	
always ensure the induction programme develops mutual respect and trust and reinforces these values in classroom activities and tutorial sessions	induction programmelesson planstutorial records	student feedback teaching/tutorial observations	
regularly evaluate how his or her own professional practice encourages student motivation, independent learning and achievement of learning goals.	record of reflective practicedevelopment activities	student feedbacktutorial recordsteaching observations	

☆see examples overleaf





H1 - Work within a professional value base (continued)

consistently demonstrate his or her own professional practice meets all learners' needs and promotes equal opportunities	 induction programme scheme of work/lesson plans programme review 	 student feedback increased involvement of new groups of learners CPD records show involvement in equal opportunities and inclusive learning events
always show respect for other people's values in the organisation and in the wider community	 induction programme records of meetings with parents, employers, community groups lesson plans 	 student feedback records of meetings with parents and others teaching observations
regularly demonstrate an understanding of the institution's needs and use appropriate procedures to identify and address issues	induction programme evidence that college policies and procedures are put into practice	 feedback from appraisal teaching observations participation in training events on college policies and practice
consistently apply own experience of learning to inform his or her approach to teaching	self-assessment reportslesson plan evaluationspersonal development portfolio	teaching observations
always work as an individual and as a member of a team to meet learners' needs in a professional manner	 self-assessment reports lesson plan evaluation minutes of team meetings programme review 	 student feedback appraisal records teaching observations internal/external moderator and verifier reports inspection reports

Examples

Demonstrate professional practice that promotes equal opportunities

As part of induction for hairdressing students, a member of the college's equal opportunities team delivers a one-hour interactive training session. Students discuss equal opportunities issues and consider their implications within the context of their chosen area of study. Activities include a role-play involving a deaf client. Students are asked to reflect on the issues raised in the role-play and think of ways to overcome prejudice.

★ Evaluates his or her own professional practice

All teaching and non-teaching staff attend a CPD workshop on reflective practice. Teachers are introduced to the reflective practice elements of the FENTO standards and work in pairs to evaluate strengths and weaknesses in teaching performance. They agree to continue this pair work as part of their professional practice and to feedback the outcomes at a future workshop.





H - Meeting Professional Requirements

H2 - Conform to agreed codes of professional practice

Observation	Indicative documentation	Feedback/evaluation		
The excellent teacher will: consistently work to appropriate national codes of professional practice relevant to the FE sector and own vocational area	 codes of conduct from professional bodies, unions and examination boards industrial standards for vocational area national/EU legal requirements 	evaluation of standards validated national, for example, charter mark, liP		
always behave professionally to learners and others	tutorial recordsminutes of meetings/ programme reviews	teaching observationstudent feedbackfeedback from colleagues and managers		
 consistently demonstrate responsibility for and commitment to student progress and achievement at all stages of the learners' experience 	 entry data progress and achievement records register/absence procedures tutorial records exit/progression data 	feedback from quality auditsfeedback from MISstudent feedback		
readily identify and carry out personal responsibilities required by the organisation's rules and regulations which require demonstrating a duty of care to learners and others • readily identify and carry out	 tutorial records legal requirements re health and safety, data protection, etc. documentation re residentials, trips, visits 	tutorial observationsteaching observationsquality audits		
 easily demonstrate he or she meets the professional responsibilities required by organisational policies and procedures 	 contract with corporation departmental/organisational targets self-assessment 	minutes from policy committeesquality auditsself-assessment reports		
always represent the organisation in an appropriate professional manner☆	 reports of visits to external organisations, for example, conferences, meetings, work placement visits, field trips reports of meetings with verifiers, external agencies and organisations 	external verifier reports feedback from external agencies and organisations		



H2 - Conform to agreed codes of professional practice (continued)

use existing resources creatively	•	resource analysis and planning	•	strategic plan
		documentation	•	evaluation and feedback on
	•	programme reviews		resource issues from the finance
				department

Examples

Identifies and carries out personal responsibilities

A French teacher made regular exchange visits with a college in France and organised an annual weekend in France for adult language students. As well as completing the necessary college documentation, she drew up a code of conduct for herself and students. The code of conduct was based on their expectations of her as a teacher during the visit, as well as guidelines for social behaviour. She found that this code of conduct enabled her to behave more professionally at all times and clarified her teaching role during the visits.

Represents the organisation in an appropriate professional manner

A head of an Engineering department takes part regularly in international events organised by a European engineering development organisation. Joan's input is always welcomed, as she is well-prepared and gives a highly polished performance. Her European colleagues value particularly her fluency in French and German. Joan always introduces her talks by describing her college and its students, and thanking her Principal for his support.

