

National Occupational Standards for Learning and Development March 2010

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Contents

1. Introduction	3				
2. Who are the National Occupational Standards for?	3				
3. What do the National Occupational Standards for Learning and Development cover?	4				
4. Structure and coverage of the National Occupational Standards for Learning and Development					
5. What's new in the National Occupational Standards for Learning and Development?	6				
What other NOS could be useful to learning and development practitioners?					
7. What do the new NOS mean for qualifications?	7				
8. The National Occupational Standards for Learning and Development	8				
Key area A: Research learning and development needs	9				
Standard 1 – Identify collective lear ning and development needs	9				
Standard 2 – Identify individuals' learning and development needs	11				
Key area B: Plan and develop learning and development					
opportunities	13				
• •					
Standard 3 – Plan and prepare learning and development programmes	13				
Standard 4 – Plan and prepare specific learning and development opportunities	16				
Standard 5 – Develop and prepare resources for learning and development	19				
Key area C: Facilitate learner achievement	21				
Standard 6 – Manage learning and development in groups	21				
Standard 7 – Facilitate individual learning and development	24				
Standard 8 – Engage and support learners in the learning and development process	26				
Standard 9 – Assess learner achievement	29				
Key area D: Maintain and improve quality standards	32				
Standard 10 – Reflect on, develop and maintain own skills and practice in learning and development	32				
Standard 11 – Internally monitor and maintain the quality of assessment	35				
Standard 12 – Externally monitor and maintain the quality of assessment	38				
Standard 13 – Evaluate and improve learning and development provision					

Introduction

1. Introduction

National Occupational Standards (NOS) for Learning and Development were first approved in 2001. Since their introduction, they have been extensively used within the learning and development community by a range of practitioners engaged in industrial and work based training, qualification delivery and consultancy. Many individual NOS have been adopted by other sectors, such as justice, social care and land-based industries, to cover their learning and development roles. Individual NOS from the suite have been very widely used as part of the assessor and verifier qualifications which are a requirement for N/SVQ delivery.

During 2009, Lifelong Learning UK carried out an extensive programme of research and consultation with the learning and development community and with other Sector Skills Councils and awarding organisations. As a result we have now revised and updated these NOS to make them more streamlined and reflective of current good practice.

2. Who are the National Occupational Standards for?

The NOS are designed for learning and development practitioners who are involved in developing and assessing the skills, knowledge and competence of learners primarily in the workplace or in work-related programmes of learning. They apply therefore to the following types of job roles in the lifelong learning sector for which learning and development is the main purpose:

- in-house trainers and training managers
- · external trainers, managers and consultants
- assessors
- · verifiers.

In addition, individual NOS will be valuable to staff in all sectors who have a learning and development function as part of their job role; for example:

- workplace managers and supervisors
- experienced staff with responsibility for developing colleagues with less experience, skills and knowledge
- assessors
- · verifiers.

3. What do the National Occupational Standards for Learning and Development cover?

There are 13 NOS for Learning and Development, which are based on a familiar structure known as the 'training cycle' or 'learning cycle'. This is presented in the following phases or 'key areas'.

- A. Research learning and development needs.
- B. Plan and develop learning and development opportunities.
- C. Facilitate learner achievement.
- D. Maintain and improve quality standards.

The diagram shows how the NOS for Learning and Development fit into this structure. It is important to note that the NOS for Learning and Development only cover what is exclusive to learning and development. Other approved NOS – for example covering management and leadership or personnel – may be necessary to provide full coverage for some job roles.

4. Structure and coverage of the National Occupational Standards for Learning and Development

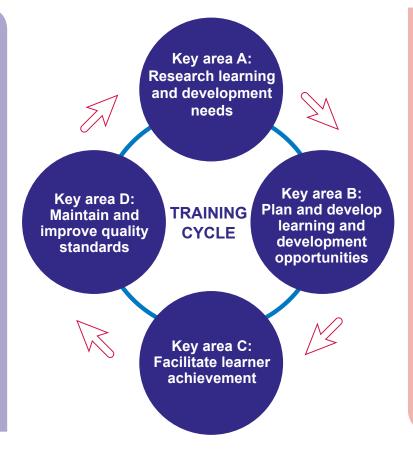
With a focus on training and development, the structure of the Learning and Development suite of NOS follows the typical training cycle.

Key area A: Research learning and development needs

1 Identify collective learning and development needs 2 Identify individuals' learning and development needs

Key area D: Maintain and improve quality standards

- 10 Reflect on, develop and maintain own skills and practice in learning and development
- 11 Internally monitor and maintain the quality of assessment
- 12 Externally monitor and maintain the quality of assessment
- 13 Evaluate and improve learning and development provision



Key area B: Plan and develop learning and development opportunities

- 3 Plan and prepare learning and development programmes
- 4 Plan and prepare specific learning and development opportunities
- 5 Develop and prepare resources for learning and development

Key area C: Facilitate learner achievement

- 6 Manage learning and development in groups
- 7 Facilitate individual learning and development
- 8 Engage and support learners in the learning and development process
- 9 Assess learner achievement

5. What's new in the National Occupational Standards for Learning and Development?

Several features of the NOS have changed.

1. The NOS have been presented in a new format.

The NOS are now much shorter with a clear emphasis only on essential areas of performance, knowledge and understanding. The new format should make it much easier for the NOS to be used for a range of purposes by learning and development organisations.

2. There are now fewer NOS than before.

The 2001 NOS for Learning and Development contained 32 separate standards. The new suite contains only 13. This has been achieved by removing some of the overlap and duplication between the standards and focusing on what is essential to learning and development.

3. Previous 'A' NOS have been merged into one standard covering assessment.

Background research suggested that the existing NOS for assessment could be brought together into one new standard that covers assessment of all kinds, not just workplace competence (although this is still included as a possible context). It was felt that the distinction between A1 and A2 was unhelpful and that a general assessment standard would be more appropriate to the diversity of qualifications that are emerging in the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF), the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) and the Qualifications and Credit Framework for Wales (CQFW). This standard addresses the fundamental principles of assessment and the essential outcomes. It still allows for the possibility that qualifications – for example, specifically for assessing workplace competence – can be developed based on this standard.

4. There is a degree of integration with the new NOS for Learning Delivery.

Lifelong Learning UK has recently developed a suite of standards for learning delivery. These address the needs of practitioners working in the further education sectors in England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland. Many of the new NOS for Learning and Development closely map to learning delivery and the overall structure is based on the same training/learning cycle. Both of these features were felt to be helpful in maintaining consistency between further education and work based provision.

¹ Further information on the NOS for Learning Delivery can be found at http://www.lluk.org/national-occupational-standards.htm

6. What other NOS could be useful to learning and development practitioners?

This suite of NOS focuses on what is unique and specific to learning and development. However there are a number of other NOS suites that contain standards that could be useful to Sector Skills Councils and other organisations that may wish to compile sets of NOS – perhaps through role maps or competence frameworks – within which learning and development features. These include the following NOS, located on the Occupational Standards Directory (www.ukstandards.co.uk).

- 1. Management and Leadership (http://tiny.cc/NOS-ML)
- 2. Learner Involvement (http://tiny.cc/NOS-LI)
- 3. Advice and Guidance (http://tiny.cc/NOS-AG)
- 4. Coaching and Mentoring in the Work Environment (http://tiny.cc/NOS-CMWE)
- 5. Personnel (http://tiny.cc/NOS-PSL).

7. What do the new NOS mean for qualifications?

Lifelong Learning UK is working closely with the sector and awarding organisations to develop units and qualification structures that will provide new qualifications for the QCF, SCQF and CQFW.

8. The National Occupational Standards for Learning and Development

There are 13 standards which are organised into four key areas (KAs).

Standard 1

Identify collective learning and development needs

What this standard is about

This standard is about carrying out a training and learning needs analysis for teams, groups, departments or organisations.

Terminology

Within this standard the following explanations and examples apply.

Collective learning needs	The learning needs that a group of learners have in common. Groups in this context could be, for example, whole organisations or teams within organisations
Focus of learning	What it is that needs to be learnt, for example, customer service, managing people or how to use new equipment
Stakeholders	All those who have an interest in the training/learning needs analysis, for example, managers, Human Resource staff, learners themselves

The standard

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:		Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:	
1.1	Gain the support and commitment of key stakeholders	KU1	The principles that underpin learning needs analysis for teams, groups or organisations
1.2	Identify the aims of the analysis, the information required, and efficient means of data collection	KU2	The contribution that learning and development can make to helping teams, groups and organisations achieve their goals and objectives
1.3	Collect sufficient information relevant to the learners and their context to identify learning and development needs	KU3	The types of stakeholders involved in an analysis of collective learning needs and why their support and commitment are important
1.4	Prioritise learning and development needs, indicating the focus and volume of learning	KU4	The types of qualitative and quantitative information required to undertake an analysis of collective learning needs
requ	equired	KU5	The importance of collecting and analysing relevant information including:

Performance criteria

Learning and development practitioners:

- 1.5 Communicate findings and recommendations to decision makers in ways that will aid their understanding
- 1.6 Negotiate any adjustments to findings and recommendations with decision makers
- 1.7 Maintain confidentiality agreement

Knowledge and understanding

Learning and development practitioners know and understand:

- · learners' collective goals and objectives
- the impact of change on roles and ways of doing things
- the requirements for skills, knowledge, attitudes and competence
- learners' existing capabilities and potential
- · attitudes to learning
- KU6 Sources of information, and efficient data collection methods, including the use of technology
- KU7 How to analyse qualitative and quantitative data to identify collective learning needs
- KU8 Issues related to equality and diversity that may affect data collection and collective learning
- KU9 Issues related to technology and changing work practices that impact on collective learning needs
- **KU10** The issues to consider when prioritising collective learning needs
- KU11 How to identify the focus and volume of learning required and the timescales required for implementation
- KU12 Who may be involved in making decisions about findings and recommendations
- KU13 Effective methods of communicating findings and recommendations to decision makers
- KU14 Why a practitioner should use their professional experience and expertise to negotiate with decision makers on findings and recommendations
- KU15 Why confidentiality is important when identifying collective learning needs and how to maintain the confidentiality of data, findings and recommendations

Standard 2:

Identify individuals' learning and development needs

■ What this standard is about

This standard is about carrying out a training and learning needs analysis for individual learners.

Terminology

Assess and manage risk	This could be a formal and written risk assessment but could be informal and dynamic – monitoring and controlling risk on an ongoing basis
Learner achievements	These could be formal e.g. examination grades or informal e.g. periods of work experience and skills and knowledge gained through these
Requirements	These could be the requirements of the practitioner's own organisation or those of an external organisation, such as a funding body or an awarding organisation
Risk	This includes health and safety risks but may also include, for example, the risk of initial assessment methods not being accurate or evidence of past achievement not being authentic
Safe	This includes physical safety as well as emotional well-being

■ The standard

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:		Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:	
2.1	Identify the learner's objectives, motivation to learn and any requirements relevant to the learning needs analysis	KU1	The principles that underpin learning needs analysis for individual learners
2.2	Review the learner's achievements, evaluating these against relevant objectives and requirements	KU2	Why it is important to identify a learner's objectives and motivation to learn when analysing their learning needs
2.3	Use safe, reliable and valid methods to assess the learner's capabilities and potential	KU3	Other requirements from organisations or external agencies that may affect a learning needs analysis
2.4	Analyse the learner's capabilities and potential in the context of their objectives and other requirements	KU4	Methods of reviewing a learner's formal and informal achievements

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:		Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:		
2.5	Agree and prioritise the learner's learning needs	KU5	Methods of giving recognition for prior learning and achievement	
2.6	Support learners in identifying their own preferred ways of learning Give the learner constructive and realistic	KU6	Methods, which include the appropriate use of technology, to carry out an initial assessment of capability and potential	
2.7	feedback on their expectations and possible learning and development opportunities	KU7	How to select initial assessment methods which are safe, reliable and valid for the learner and their objectives	
2.8	Maintain agreements about confidentiality	KU8	How to assess and manage risk when carrying out initial assessments	
		KU9	Issues related to equality and diversity that may affect an individual learning needs analysis and how to address these	
		KU10	Who to make agreements with and the issues to consider when prioritising an individual's learning needs	
		KU11	The communication and personal skills that practitioners need when identifying an individual's learning needs	
		KU12	Preferred ways of learning and how these may affect choices about possible learning and development opportunities	
		KU13	Different methods of supporting learners to identify their preferred ways of learning, and how to use this information to support their learning	
		KU14	Different methods of providing feedback to a learner on the outcomes of the learning needs analysis, and the advantages and disadvantages of these methods	
		KU15	Why confidentiality is important when identifying learning needs and what information to safeguard	

Standard 3:

Plan and prepare learning and development programmes

What this standard is about

This standard is about planning and preparing learning and development programmes to meet identified needs and requirements. It applies to planning for both groups and individuals. 'Programme' refers to any planned sequence of learning opportunities which lead to agreed outcomes. Examples might include a course, a programme of learning in the workplace, or an individual coaching programme.

Terminology

Delivery methods	Any method that supports learning and development, for example, presentations, instructions, demonstrations, opportunities to apply knowledge and practise skills, experiential learning, group and individual projects and research
Learning and development opportunities	Any event that assists the acquisition of skills and knowledge. This includes formal sessions as well as experiences such as visits, time spent in the workplace, personal research etc.
Outcomes	These could be outcomes for the group as a whole – for example enabling team effectiveness – and/or outcomes for the individuals who make up the group – for example individual skill acquisition
Programme	A planned sequence of learning and development opportunities over a period of time which lead to agreed learning outcomes, for example a 'course'
Requirements	These could be the requirements of the practitioner's own organisation or those of an external organisation, such as a funding body or an awarding organisation
Resources	This covers any physical or human resource that supports the learning and development process and could include technical equipment, IT-based learning, handouts, workbooks, people – for example outside speakers – and visits to places of interest

Risk assessments	This could be a formal and written risk assessment but could be informal and dynamic – monitoring and controlling risk on an ongoing basis. Risk includes health and safety but may also cover finance, availability of resources etc.

The standard

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Learning and development practitioners:

3.1 Identify learning outcomes that meet agreed learning and development needs

- 3.2 Develop a coherent plan of learning and development opportunities appropriate to the learning outcomes and internal/external requirements
- 3.3 Identify realistic delivery and assessment methods appropriate to learning and development opportunities
- 3.4 Identify the resources needed to deliver the plan and ensure these are within allocated budgets
- **3.5** Ensure arrangements for the delivery of the plan are in place
- 3.6 Identify how the learning will be monitored and evaluated
- 3.7 Communicate the plan to learners and other people involved in the provision of learning and development
- 3.8 Ensure the plan conforms to relevant policies, procedures and legislation

Knowledge and understanding

Learning and development practitioners know and understand:

- KU1 How information acquired from analysing learning and development needs contributes to planning, and the factors that need to be taken into account
- KU2 How to identify a range of options for meeting learning outcomes and the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches, including the use of technology
- KU3 How to develop a plan of learning and development opportunities that meets different learning needs, including those relating to equality and diversity
- KU4 The types of internal and external requirements that may affect planning, including, where relevant, bilingualism
- KU5 Factors that need to be managed when arranging and co-ordinating learning and development opportunities
- KU6 How to carry out risk assessments, and the factors that need to be considered in the learning context
- KU7 The importance of flexibility and contingency planning when developing programmes
- KU8 The learning cycle and how this should inform the planning process

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:	Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:		
	KU9 Why it is important for learner needs to be at the centre of programme plans		
	KU10 How to involve learners in the development o programme plans		
	KU11 The range of resources – including the use of technology – that may be needed to facilitate, monitor and evaluate learning and development and how to identify them		
	KU12 How planning and resource needs can be affected by the learners' identified abilities and needs, including the use of language		
	KU13 The organisational, legal and professional requirements that should be followed when planning learning and development programmes		
	KU14 The arrangements required for the delivery of the plan, including the systems, structures and relationships needed for effective implementation		
	KU15 The factors that need to be considered when monitoring the implementation of the plan and evaluating the effectiveness of learning		
	KU16 How continuous evaluation can help to shape the development and implementation of learning plans and improve learning		
	KU17 The colleagues with whom plans should be shared		
	KU18 How to encourage the commitment and understanding which learners and colleagues need to be effective in the implementation of programmes		

Standard 4:

Plan and prepare specific learning and development opportunities

What this standard is about

This standard is about planning and preparing specific/individual learning and development opportunities, for example formal training sessions or informal experiences such as periods in the workplace. It applies to planning for individuals as well as planning for groups.

Terminology

Delivery methods	Any method that supports learning and development, for example, presentations, instructions, demonstrations, opportunities to apply knowledge and practise skills, experiential learning, group and individual projects and research
Learning and development opportunities	Any event that assists the acquisition of skills and knowledge. This includes formal sessions as well as experiences such as visits, time spent in the workplace, personal research etc.
Outcomes	These could be outcomes for the group as a whole – for example enabling team effectiveness – and/or outcomes for the individuals who make up the group – for example individual skill acquisition
Resources	This covers any physical or human resource that supports the learning and development process and could include technical equipment, IT-based learning, handouts, workbooks, people – for example outside speakers – and visits to places of interest
Risk assessments	This could be a formal and written risk assessment but could be informal and dynamic – monitoring and controlling risk on an ongoing basis. Risk includes health and safety but may also cover finance, availability of resources etc.

The standard

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:		Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:		
4.1	Identify the purpose and outcomes of specific learning and development opportunities in relation to agreed goals	KU1	The importance of having clear outcomes for specific learning and development opportunities	
4.24.3	Communicate aims and objectives to learners Identify how specific learning and development	KU2	Different methods of communicating aims and objectives to learners	
4.4	opportunities will be delivered and/or facilitated and managed	KU3	Options for delivering and/or facilitating different types of learning and development opportunities	
4.4	Identify the resources needed to deliver and/ or facilitate specific learning and development opportunities	KU4	Factors to consider in selecting suitable delivery and facilitation methods	
4.5	Identify how learning and development opportunities will be monitored and evaluated	KU5	The range of planning considerations relevant to ensuring that equality, diversity and, where relevant, bilingualism needs are	
4.6	Ensure preparations and arrangements for delivery and/or facilitation, management and evaluation are carried out in sufficient time	KU6	met Factors that need to be considered in the	
4.7	Ensure plans are appropriate to identified learning needs and meet organisational and legal requirements	management of different learning	management of different learning and development opportunities and how to deal	
		KU7	The resources, including technology, available to support delivery and / or facilitation and management of learning and development opportunities	
		KU8	The advantages and disadvantages of different types of resources in meeting learner needs	
		KU9	The types of preparations that need to be undertaken for different learning opportunities and why each of these is important	
		KU10	How to carry out a risk assessment in relation to planning for specific learning	

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:	Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:
	and development opportunities, and the contingencies which should be put in place in response to risk assessments
	KU11 The operational requirements that should be considered in planning specific learning and development opportunities, including organisational, health and safety, budgetary and legislative guidelines

Standard 5:

Develop and prepare resources for learning and development

What this standard is about

This standard is about preparing resources to support learning and development. It covers developing resources 'from scratch' as well as adapting and preparing existing resources to meet the needs of learners. It also covers the preparation of resources including the learning environment, learning materials and equipment used to support learning.

Terminology

Within this standard the following explanations and examples apply.

Resources	This covers any physical or human resource that supports the learning and development process and could include technical equipment, Information Technology-based learning, handouts, workbooks and visits to places of interest
Target group	Those learners who will be using the resources

The standard

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:		Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:	
5.1	Agree the range and purpose of resources required	KU1	The different types of resources that can be used to support learning across the full range of the training cycle
5.2	Identify the resource needs of the individuals or groups that the resources are being prepared	KU2	The range of resources available to support different types of needs
5.3	Identify and develop resources which are appropriate to the target group and the purpose for which they are required	KU3	The importance of distinguishing between different user needs and the factors which are important in selecting and developing resources to meet these needs
5.4	Ensure anyone else who is using the resources receives the necessary guidance	KU4	The factors that need to be considered in the effective preparation and development of learning resources, including those for the learning environment, learning materials and equipment

Performance criteria

Learning and development practitioners:

- 5.5 Ensure adaptations to existing resources are consistent with learning needs and professional practice
- 5.6 Ensure resources are consistent with legislative, safety, equality and diversity and professional guidelines
- 5.7 Make sure that resources are checked and tested to ensure they meet required standards and learner needs

Knowledge and understanding

Learning and development practitioners know and understand:

- KU5 How to identify costs and timescales for resource development
- KU6 The factors which are important in selecting and developing resources to meet the needs of different learners, taking account of the need for equality and diversity
- KU7 How to ensure that the language, style and format of the materials are appropriate to the needs of the learners.
- KU8 How to develop simulated exercises that replicate real working challenges
- KU9 How to set up and use equipment to support learning and development
- KU10 The contribution and challenges that technology can make to the development and adaptation of different types of resources and the challenges posed by these
- **KU11** How to develop guidance for the use of resources and how to encourage consistent application
- KU12 The types of adaptations that could be made to resources to make them more appropriate to learning needs and user requirements
- KU13 The legislative, safety and professional guidelines relating to the development and adaptation of resources, including those relating to intellectual property, copyright and patents
- KU14 The importance of checking and testing resources to make sure they are of the required standard and how to do this effectively
- KU15 How to make adaptations to the learning environment to support the learning process
- KU16 The preparation, support and qualifications that staff require to contribute effectively to learning and development activities within own area of responsibility



Standard 6:

Manage learning and development in groups

What this standard is about

This standard is about using a range of methods to enable group members to learn and develop in a safe and supportive learning environment.

Terminology

Delivery methods	Any method that supports learning and development, for example presentations, instructions, demonstrations, opportunities to apply knowledge and practise skills, experiential learning, group and individual projects and research	
Environment	This includes the physical environment in which learning and development takes place but also covers group dynamics and behaviour	
Health and safety	This includes physical health and safety as well as emotional well-being	
Outcomes	These could be outcomes for the group as a whole – for example enabling team effectiveness – and/or outcomes for the individuals who make up the group – for example individual skill acquisition	
Requirements	These could be the requirements of the practitioner's own organisation or those of an external organisation, such as funding body or awarding organisation	
Resources	This covers any physical or human resource that supports the learning and development process and could include technical equipment, Information Technology-based learning, handouts, workbooks, people – for example outside speakers – and visits to places of interest	
Risk	This refers to any risk to the effective facilitation of the group. Risks may be to individual learners, to the group as a whole or to those facilitating. This includes health and safety risks but may also include, for example, the risk of delivery methods not being appropriate	
Other people	This refers to others who may be involved in, or affected by, the learning activities, for example, staff members, volunteers, assistants or people in the same area	

The standard

Performance criteria

Learning and development practitioners:

- 6.1 Manage a group environment in which individuals feel valued, supported, confident and able to learn
- **6.2** Communicate with learners in a way that meets individual and group needs
- 6.3 Make learners aware of the outcomes they are expected to achieve and how the planned activities will support these
- 6.4 Use a range of delivery methods, activities and resources to meet the needs of all group members, as appropriate to planned outcomes
- 6.5 Balance and adjust delivery to meet individual needs while achieving planned group outcomes and agreements
- 6.6 Monitor learner response and use appropriate strategies to motivate learners individually and collectively
- **6.7** Encourage effective communication within the group
- 6.8 Maintain the health and safety of learners, self and other people

Knowledge and understanding

Learning and development practitioners know and understand:

- KU1 The learners needs, requirements and planned outcomes relevant to their own areas of work
- KU2 The types of learning resources available, including those that are technology enhanced, that can support learning and development in groups
- KU3 The factors to consider when selecting and using learning and development resources to facilitate learning and development in groups
- KU4 The characteristics of a group environment that foster learning and development for all those involved
- KU5 Different techniques to manage group dynamics
- KU6 Aspects of equality, diversity and, where relevant, bilingualism, that need to be addressed when facilitating learning and development in groups
- KU7 Different ways of encouraging behaviour and values that foster mutual respect and support the learning and development process
- KU8 The importance of own communication skills and different ways to communicate effectively with groups, and individuals within groups
- KU9 The range of delivery methods appropriate to learning in groups
- KU10 How to co-ordinate learning and development activities to meet individual and group needs

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:	Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:
	KU11 The types of motivational strategies that would support group and individual learning and how to select these according to identified needs
	KU12 Techniques that can be used to monitor learner response
	KU13 Different ways of adapting delivery according to learner response whilst still achieving planned outcomes and agreements
	KU14 How to assess and manage risk in own area of work whilst facilitating learning and development in groups

Standard 7:

Facilitate individual learning and development

What this standard is about

This standard is about using a range of methods to enable individuals to acquire or improve skills and knowledge and practise their application in context. It also covers providing feedback to learners and encouraging them to reflect on and improve what they do. This standard could be achieved as part of a coaching and/or mentoring relationship.

Terminology

Application	The process of applying new or improved skills and knowledge in a real or realistic context, for example a work situation	
Goals	This refers to interim targets or steps towards learners meeting overall outcomes and objectives	
Health and safety	This includes physical health and safety as well as emotional well-being	
Learner objectives	These will usually be performance objectives – for example doing something or doing something better	
Methods	Any method that supports individual learning and development, for example, instructions, demonstrations, opportunities to apply knowledge and practise skills, experiential learning, individual projects and research	
Other people	This refers to others who may be involved in, or affected by, the learning activities, for example, staff members, volunteers, assistants or people in the same area.	
Reflection/reflective practice	The process of thinking critically about what we do, identifying opportunities for improvement and, where appropriate, further learning needs	
Resources	This covers any physical or human resource that supports the learning and development process and could include technical equipment, Information Technology-based learning, handouts, workbooks, people – for example outside speakers – and visits to places of interest	
Risk	This relates to any risk to the facilitation of learning and development. This includes health and safety but could also cover, for example, the risk of setting unrealistic goals or selecting inappropriate learning methods	

■ The standard

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:		Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:	
7.1 7.2 7.3 7.4 7.5 7.6 7.7 7.8 7.9	Establish and maintain a professional relationship with the learner that supports individual learning and reflection Explore and agree the learner's objectives, learning needs and goals Agree a plan of learning, application and reflection Use a range of methods and resources to help the learner acquire/develop the skills and knowledge they need Support the learner in applying their learning in context Provide constructive and motivational feedback to improve the learner's application of learning Assist the learner to reflect on their practice and experience Adapt learning, application and reflection to meet further needs Maintain the health and safety of the learner, self and other people	Know KU1 KU2 KU3 KU4 KU5 KU6 KU7 KU8 KU9 KU10 KU11	and understand: The principles, uses and value of learning and development on an individual basis The characteristics of a relationship that supports individual learning, application and reflection Aspects of equality and diversity that need to be addressed when facilitating individual learning and development The importance of reflective practice in individual learning and development Key factors to consider when setting and agreeing goals with individual learners The range of delivery methods appropriate to individual learning The range of resources, including support from others, that are available to support individual learning How technology can enhance resources and delivery methods for individual learning The range of techniques that can be used to encourage reflective practice by the learner How to support different types of learners in applying new or enhanced learning in context The types of barriers that learners encounter and how to develop strategies to overcome these How to adapt learning plans in response to learner progress and reflection whilst still focusing on learner needs and desired outcomes
		KU13	How to assess and manage risk in own area of work whilst facilitating learning and development for individuals

Standard 8:

Engage and support learners in the learning and development process

What this standard is about

This standard is about supporting learners through the learning process by, for example, providing them with information and advice, helping them overcome barriers, helping them access the learning and experience they need, monitoring progress against expected standards and providing constructive feedback.

Terminology

Barriers	Anything that might prevent the learner taking a full part. This could include, for example, lack of confidence or essential skills and knowledge		
Expected standards	The standards the learner should achieve as part of their learning programme. These could include national occupational standards or standards set by other types of qualifications		
Learning process	This may include experience, such as time in the workplace, as well as formal and informal training		
Provide evidence of achievement	This could include providing witness statements to qualified assessors		

The standard

Performance criteria

Learning and development practitioners:

- 8.1 Establish and maintain a positive relationship with the learner which encourages and motivates learning
- 8.2 Provide the learner with information and advice relevant to their needs
- 8.3 Enable the learner to engage with, and contribute to, their own learning
- 8.4 Assist the learner to access the skills, knowledge and experience they need
- 8.5 Help the learner overcome any barriers that prevent them taking a full part in the learning process
- 8.6 Support the learner in taking responsibility for their own development
- 8.7 Monitor the learner's performance against expected standards and provide evidence of achievement to others as required
- 8.8 Provide constructive feedback to the learner
- 8.9 Review learner progress and help them adapt their plans as necessary

Knowledge and understanding

Learning and development practitioners know and understand:

- KU1 The characteristics of a relationship that supports the learner's progress and provides them with motivation to learn
- KU2 The types of information and advice that learners may require and how to provide or access this
- KU3 Different strategies to enable learners to engage with learning
- KU4 Aspects of equality and diversity that need to be addressed when supporting learners
- KU5 The range of techniques through which different types of learners can contribute to their own learning
- KU6 The types of barriers to learning that different types of learners experience and how to address these
- KU7 How to help individuals with different types of learning needs access the skills, knowledge and experiences they need to progress
- KU8 The boundaries of own role and when to refer the learner to other sources of help and support
- KU9 The range of resources, including support from others and technology-based solutions, that are available to support learners
- KU10 Why it is important that learners take responsibility for their own learning and different methods of helping them to do so
- KU11 Methods that can be used to enable learners to provide honest and constructive feedback on their experiences and how to use this feedback when it has been collected

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:	Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:	
	KU12 Methods that can be used to monitor the learner's performance against required standards	
	KU13 Different methods of presenting evidence of learner achievement to others	
	KU14 Different methods of providing the learner with constructive feedback and how to use these methods effectively	
	KU15 The importance of reviewing learner progress and appropriate times to do so	
	KU16 The factors which are important in helping learners to review their progress and, where necessary, adapt their plans for learning and progression	

Standard 9:

Assess learner achievement

What this standard is about

This standard is about assessing learning and development against agreed criteria. It covers a range of different assessments including competence, knowledge and understanding and skills.

Terminology

Assessment method	For example observation, questioning, checking products of work, setting assignments	
Authentic	The candidate's own work	
Equality	A state of fair treatment that is the right of all people regardless of differences in, for example, culture, ability, gender race, religion, wealth, sexual orientation, or any other group characteristic	
Diversity	Acknowledging that each individual is unique, and recognising our individual differences in, for example, culture, ability, gender, race, religion, wealth, sexual orientation, or any other individual characteristic	
Identify and collect evidence	Cymhwyso gwybodaeth a sgiliau newydd i atgyfnerthu dysgu, gwella eich arfer eich hun, ac adolygu effeithiolrwydd y wybodaeth a sgil newydd a gafwyd	
Reliable	Consistently achieves the same results with the same (or similar) group of learners	
Requirements	These could be the requirements of the practitioner's own organisation or those of an external organisation, such as an awarding organisation	
Risk assessment	This could be a formal and written risk assessment but could be informal and dynamic – monitoring and controlling risk on an ongoing basis. Risk includes health and safety but may also cover other types of risk, for example the risk of problems arising which interfere with the assessment process, or the risk of using inappropriate assessment methods	

Sufficient	Enough evidence as specified in Evidence Requirements or Assessment Strategy	
Valid	Relevant to the criteria against which the candidate is being assessed	
Fair	Ensuring that everyone has an equal chance of getting an accurate assessment	
Safe	This covers both physical and psychological safety. It also includes ensuring that assessment evidence is safe in the sense that is sufficiently robust to make a reliable judgement that the learner does meet the assessment standard	

■ The Standard

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:		Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:	
9.1	Ensure learners understand the purpose, requirements and processes of assessment	KU1	The key concepts and principles of assessment
9.2	Plan assessment to meet requirements and learner needs	KU2	The range of information that should be made available to learners
9.3	Use valid, fair, reliable and safe assessment methods	KU3	The current criteria against which assessments are made and the current regulations and requirements relating to their
9.4	Identify and collect evidence that is:		assessment
	validauthenticsufficient	KU4	Guidelines for assessment planning as appropriate to own area of responsibility
9.5	Make assessment decisions against specified criteria	KU5	How to involve learners in the planning of assessments
9.6	Provide feedback to the learner that affirms achievement and identifies any additional requirements	KU6	How assessment arrangements can be adapted to meet the needs of individual learners
9.7	Maintain required records of the assessment process, its outcomes and learner progress	KU7	The uses, benefits and drawbacks of different assessment methods, including the use of simulation and those that involve the
9.8	of accomment practice and outcomes	KU8	use of technology The types of risks that may be involved in the assessment process and how to manage these

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:	Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:	
	KU9 Issues related to equality, diversity and, where relevant, bilingualism, that may affect the assessment process and how to address these	
	KU10 How to make sure that assessment decisions are made against specified criteria and are valid, reliable and fair	
	KU11 How to determine when evidence is sufficient to make an assessment decision	
	KU12 How to judge the authenticity and currency of evidence and what to do when there is doubt	
	KU13 How to record and store assessment decisions, who they should be made available to and the data protection and confidentiality guidelines that should be followed	
	KU14 Factors to consider when providing feedback to learners	
	KU15 The relevant procedures when there are disputes concerning assessment	
	KU16 Standardisation processes and how to contribute to these	
	KU17 How to co-operate and work effectively with others involved in the assessment process	
	KU18 The value and purpose of continuing professional development for assessment practitioners	

Standard 10:

Reflect on, develop and maintain own skills and practice in learning and development

What this standard is about

This standard is about reflecting on current practice, identifying own learning and development needs and taking part in continuing professional development.

Terminology

Within this standard the following explanations and examples apply.

Role	This describes the job that you are contracted to carry out and the work that you must do
Practice	This refers to the 'way' that you carry out your work and takes account of factors such as your approach to your work

The standard

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:		Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:	
10.1	Identify current performance requirements relevant to your practice Identify trends and developments relevant to	KU1	The extent and limitations of the requirements and responsibilities associated with own role
10.2	own skills, knowledge and practice	KU2	The health and safety practice and personal and social skills relevant to own area of work
10.3	Identify and critically reflect on how own beliefs and attitudes influence own practice		and management of own workload
10.4	Seek feedback, collect information and continually reflect on own performance	KU3	Team, organisational and own professional goals
10.5	Assess the extent to which own practice is inclusive and promotes equality and diversity	KU4	How to explore current performance requirements relevant to own practice, including role descriptors, standards, benchmarks, codes of practice, and values and principles relevant to own practice

Performance criteria

Learning and development practitioners:

- **10.6** Review and evaluate own skills, knowledge and practice against available information
- 10.7 Prioritise areas for development and plan how learning and development will be achieved
- 10.8 Inform relevant individuals and use appropriate systems to report and address factors that impact negatively on own practice
- 10.9 Access development needed to carry out own work more effectively and continually use a range of resources to keep own knowledge, skills and practice up to date
- 10.10 Keep records of own actions, development plans and progress, and use them to support and inform ongoing reflective practice
- 10.11 Apply new knowledge and skills to consolidate learning, improve own practice, and review the effectiveness of newly acquired knowledge and skills
- 10.12 Share knowledge, skills and improvements to practice with colleagues where it is likely to be of benefit

Knowledge and understanding

Learning and development practitioners know and understand:

- KU5 How to find out about and stay abreast of trends and developments relevant to own skills, knowledge and practice including those relating to technological developments
- KU6 Effective methods for assessing own values, beliefs and attitudes relevant to own skills and practice
- Why it is important to understand own values, beliefs and attitudes and how it can affect own work practice as well as own learning and development
- Why it is important to seek feedback on own performance from all those involved in the learning process and ways that this can be done
- KU9 The type of information that should be collected to inform a review of own skills, knowledge and practice
- KU10 Ways to continuously reflect on and evaluate own efficiency and effectiveness and why this is important
- KU11 Methods that can be used to assess the extent to which own practice is inclusive and promotes equality and diversity
- KU12 Methods that can be used to evaluate own skills knowledge and practice and the range of information that should be used to inform this process
- KU13 The information that should be considered in the prioritisation of own learning and development needs
- KU14 Sources and methods of relevant continuous and professional development to facilitate own learning

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:	Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:	
	KU15 How research can help to update practice	
	KU16 Methods, systems and processes for sharing evaluation information and suggesting improvements	
	KU17 How to provide constructive criticism when suggesting improvements to colleagues	
	KU18 Why it is important to keep records of own actions, development plans and progress and how these can be used to inform ongoing reflective practice	
	KU19 Why it is important to evaluate the effectiveness of learning resources and learning provision used for own learning and development and who this information should be shared with	
	KU20 How sharing good practice with others can help to develop own practice	
	KU21 The importance of continuous professional development and collaborative reflection on learning development practice	

Standard 11:

Internally monitor and maintain the quality of assessment

■ What this standard is about

This standard is about monitoring assessment processes and decisions within an organisation, and helping to maintain and improve the quality of assessment.

Terminology

Assessment method	For example observation, questioning, checking products of work, setting assignments
Candidate	The learner being assessed
Equality	A state of fair treatment that is the right of all people regardless of differences in culture, ability, gender race, religion, wealth, sexual orientation, or any other group characteristic
Diversity	Acknowledging that each individual is unique, and recognising our individual differences in culture, ability, gender, race, religion, wealth, sexual orientation, or any other individual characteristic
Organisation	For example an awarding organisation, internal department or any other organisation involved in assessment
Reliable	Consistently achieves the same results with the same (or similar) group of learners
Requirements for their role	This could include holding an assessor qualification and/or being expert in the subject being assessed
Sufficient	Enough evidence as specified in Evidence Requirements or Assessment Strategy.
Valid	Relevant to the criteria against which the candidate is being assessed

■ The standard

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:		Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:	
11.1	Plan and prepare monitoring activities according to the requirements of own role	KU1	The current quality requirements for assessment processes and systems in their area of responsibility
11.2	Determine whether assessment processes and systems meet and operate according to quality requirements	KU2	The key concepts and principles of quality assurance
11.3	Check that assessors meet the requirements for their role	KU3	The key concepts and principles of assessment
11.4	Check that assessments are planned, prepared for and carried out according to	KU4	The role of the assessor and the relevant requirements of the role
11.5	agreed procedures Check that assessment methods are safe, fair, valid and reliable	KU5	The roles of those involved in maintaining the quality of assessment and the relevant requirements of these roles
11.6	Check that assessment decisions are made using specified criteria	KU6	The agreed procedures for planning, preparing for and carrying out assessments
11.7	Compare assessor decisions to ensure they are consistent	KU7	Techniques for sampling evidence of assessment, including making appropriate use of technology
11.8	Provide assessors with feedback, advice and support to help them maintain and improve their assessment practice	KU8	Appropriate criteria for judging the quality of the assessment process
11.9	Work with others to ensure the standardisation of assessment practice and	KU9	How to ensure the health and safety of the learner is maintained during assessment
44.40	outcomes	KU10	The uses, benefits and drawbacks of different assessment methods
	Follow agreed procedures when there are significant concerns about the quality of assessment	KU11	The types of feedback, support and advice that assessors need and how to meet these needs
11.11	Follow agreed procedures for the recording, storing, reporting and confidentiality of information	KU12	Issues related to equality, diversity and if relevant, bilingualism, that may affect assessment and quality assurance, and how to address these

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:	Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:
	KU13 Procedures to follow when there are concerns about the quality of assessment: when and how to use them
	KU14 Standardisation processes and how to co- ordinate and contribute to these
	KU15 The procedures to follow when there are disputes concerning assessment and quality assurance
	KU16 Procedures to follow when planning and preparing for, carrying out and recording monitoring activity
	KU17 The requirements for information management, data protection and confidentiality in relation to assessment and quality assurance
	KU18 The value and purpose of continuing professional development for assessment and quality assurance practitioners

Standard 12:

Externally monitor and maintain the quality of assessment

What this standard is about

This standard is about monitoring assessment processes and decisions from outside an organisation, and helping to maintain and improve relevant quality assurance systems.

Terminology

Assessment method	Ways of measuring learning and development, for example observation, questioning, checking products of work, setting assignments
Equality	A state of fair treatment that is the right of all people regardless of differences in, for example, culture, ability, gender race, religion, wealth, sexual orientation, or any other group characteristic
Diversity	Acknowledging that each individual is unique, and recognizing our individual differences in, for example, culture, ability, gender, race, religion, wealth, sexual orientation, or any other individual characteristic
Staff competence	This could include holding an assessor qualification and/or being expert in the subject being assessed

The standard

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:		Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:	
12.1	Plan, communicate and establish procedures for the external monitoring of quality	KU1	The key concepts and principles of assessment
12.2	assurance systems as required Check that internal quality assurance systems	KU2	The key concepts and principles of quality assurance
	and administrative arrangements meet current requirements	KU3	The role of the assessor and internal quality assurance staff and the current relevant requirements to undertake these roles
12.3	Check that staffing and staff competence, assessment arrangements, methods and decisions meet requirements	KU4	The current requirements that must be met for internal and external quality assurance
12.4		KU5	The current requirements that must be met for internal assessment arrangements and practices
		KU6	How to monitor and evaluate internal quality

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:		Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:	
12.5	Work with others to ensure the standardisation of assessment practice and outcomes		assurance arrangements and practices, including the use of technology
12.6	Follow the agreed procedures when internal quality assurance and assessment arrangements and practices do not meet requirements Follow agreed procedures for the recording, storing, reporting and confidentiality of information	KU7	How to monitor and evaluate internal assessment arrangements and practices, including the use of technology
12.7		KU8	The procedures to follow when internal quality assurance and assessment arrangements do not meet requirements
		KU9	The types of support and advice that organisations need on internal quality assurance and assessment arrangements and practices
		KU10	The importance of providing consistent support and advice that follows agreed guidance and requirements
		KU11	How to adapt monitoring and evaluation approaches in relation to customer need without compromising standards
		KU12	Issues related to equality, diversity and if relevant, bilingualism, that may affect assessment and quality assurance and how to address these
		KU13	Different methods of providing appropriate support and advice in line with own organisation's guidance
		KU14	Record keeping procedures relating to external quality assurance
		KU15	The requirements for information management relating to external quality assurance
		KU16	The requirements for data protection and confidentiality in relation to external quality assurance
		KU17	The value and purpose of continuing professional development for assessment and quality assurance practitioners

Standard 13:

Evaluate and improve learning and development provision

What this standard is about

This standard is about evaluating learning and development provision and planning/implementing quality improvements.

Terminology

Evidence	This could be, for example, learner progress, learner attainment, learner satisfaction, staff engagement as appropriate to the quality indicators
Quality requirements	These could be, for example, organisational, legal/statutory, funding or awarding organisation requirements
Scope	What the evaluation will cover

The standard

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:		Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:	
13.1	Identify the purpose and scope of the evaluation	KU1	The key concepts and principles of quality assurance and continuous improvement
13.2	Identify quality requirements and appropriate measures of performance	KU2	The quality requirements appropriate to own work context and work role
13.3	Identify methods for monitoring, collecting, managing and analysing data	KU3	How to research and keep up to date with quality requirements relevant to learning and
13.4	3		development
	identified monitoring procedure	, ,	Industry recognised standards relevant to
13.5	Identify strengths and areas for improvement		learning and development and the processes and activities which deliver excellence in the
13.6	Evaluate own contribution to working within	in work context being evaluate	work context being evaluated
quality systems KU5 How t	How to identify performance indicators		
13.7	Ensure that potential improvements are realistic and achievable		relevant to the area of learning and development being evaluated

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:		Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:	
13.8	Work with others to plan and implement improvements to learning and development Monitor and evaluate the impact of	KU6	How to set realistic targets, the contribution that targets can make to evaluation processes and the drawbacks associated with target driven work
	improvements	KU7	The strengths and weaknesses of different monitoring and information collection methods and how to develop and administer these methods
		KU8	The range, amount and frequency of data – including qualitative and quantitative – that needs to be collected and analysed to give valid information about quality
		KU9	The contribution that technology can make to the monitoring and evaluation process
		K10	The principles of information management and how to establish systems for the monitoring and management of qualitative and quantitative data
		KU11	Processes, procedures and methods involved in data analysis and interpretation
		KU12	What to monitor for specific purposes and how to record and store it
		KU13	How to contribute to self-assessment and evaluation processes
		KU14	The role and functions of individuals and teams in improving quality and raising standards
		KU15	The importance of involving the learner in quality improvement
		KU16	How to encourage the learner to contribute to self-assessment processes

Performance criteria Learning and development practitioners:	Knowledge and understanding Learning and development practitioners know and understand:	
	KU17 The impact of the wider learning environment on the learner experience	
	KU18 How to use feedback to develop own practice specific to the relevant quality systems	
	KU19 How to act on the outcomes of quality assurance, including self-assessment and evaluation	
	KU20 How to contribute to quality improvement plans	
	KU21 How to work with those involved in the learning process to influence and implement quality improvement	
	KU22 The confidentiality and data protection legislation relevant to the collection and storage of information in learning and development	



This information is available in alternative formats from Lifelong Learning UK

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