

Skills for Care & Development Assessment Principles

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Skills for Care and Development (SfCD) is the UK sector skills council (SSC) for social care, children, early years and young people. Its structure for realising the SSC remit is via a partnership of four organisations: Care Council for Wales, Northern Ireland Social Care Council, Scottish Social Services Council and Skills for Care (adult social care only).
- 1.2. This document sets out the minimum expected principles and approaches to assessment, and should be read alongside qualification regulatory arrangements and any specific requirements set out for particular qualifications. Additional information and guidance regarding assessment can be obtained from Awarding Organisations and from SfCD partner organisations at links below in appendix 1
- 1.3. The information is intended to support the quality assurance processes of Awarding Organisations that offer qualifications in the Sector.
- 1.4. Where Skills for Care and Development qualifications are jointly supported with Skills for Health, [Skill for Health assessment principles](#) should also be considered.
- 1.5. Throughout this document the term unit is used for simplicity, but this can mean module or any other similar term.
- 1.6. In all work we would expect assessors to observe and review learners practising core values and attitudes required for quality practice. These include embracing dignity and respect, rights, choice, equality, diversity, inclusion, individuality and confidentiality. All learners should follow the appropriate standards for conduct and all those involved in any form of assessment must know and embrace the values and standards of practice set out in these documents.
- 1.7. Assessors should ensure that the voices and choices of people who use services drive their practice and that of their learner. This will be apparent throughout the evidence provided for a learner's practice

2. Assessment Principles

Good practice dictates the following:

- 2.1. Learners must be registered with the Awarding Organisation before formal assessment commences.
- 2.2. Assessors must be able to evidence and justify the assessment decisions observed

- 4.6. **Witness testimony:** Witness testimony is an account of practice that has been witnessed or experienced by someone other than the assessor and the learner. Witness testimony has particular value in confirming reliability and authenticity, particularly in the assessment of practice in sensitive situations. Witness testimony provides supporting information for assessment decisions and should not be used as the only evidence of skills.

Appendix A: Skills for Care and Development partnership website links

[Social Care Wales](#)

[Northern Ireland Social Care Council](#)

[Scottish Social Services Council](#)

[Skills for Care](#)

[Skills for Care & Development](#)

Appendix B: Joint awarding body quality group – recognised assessor qualifications

D32 Assess Candidate Performance and D33 Assess Candidate Using Differing Sources of Evidence

A1 Assess Candidate Performance Using a Range of Methods and A2 Assessing Candidates' Performance through Observation

QCF Level 3 Award in Assessing Competence in the Work Environment (for competence / skills learning outcomes only)

QCF Level 3 Award in Assessing Vocationally Related Achievement (for knowledge learning outcomes only)

QCF Level 3 Certificate in Assessing Vocational Achievement

Qualified Teacher Status

Certificate in Education in Post Compulsory Education (PCE)

Social Work Post Qualifying Award in Practice Teaching

Certificate in Teaching in the Lifelong Learning Sector (CTLLS)

Diploma in Teaching in the Lifelong Learning sector (DTLLS)

Mentorship and Assessment in Health and Social Care Settings

Mentorship in Clinical/Health Care Practice

L&D9DI - Assessing workplace competence using Direct and Indirect methods (Scotland)

L&D9D - Assessing workplace competence using Direct methods (Scotland)

NOCN – Tutor/Assessor Award

Level 3 Awards and Certificate in Assessing the Quality of Assessment (QCF)

Level 4 Awards and Certificates in Assuring the Quality of Assessment (QCF)

Level 3 Award in Education and Training JABQG Sept 2014 - Version 5

Level 4 Certificate in Education and Training

Level 5 Diploma in Educations and Training

Level 3 Certificates in Assessing Vocational Achievement (RQF)