



Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Additional Support Needs: Programme Planning

Unit code: F2C7 35

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to develop the knowledge and skills required to develop learning programmes for individuals with ASN. Candidates will require to analyse the nature, form and content of these programmes and will require to plan, develop and evaluate a specific programme for an individual with additional support needs.

On completion of the Unit the candidate should be able to:

- 1 Explain the factors that influence the curriculum for individuals with additional support needs.
- 2 Analyse aims and objectives of programme plans and relate this to the needs of the learner.
- 3 Plan a learning programme for a specific learning need.
- 4 Evaluate the programme in relation to its potential implementation.

Credit points and level: 2 HN credits at SCQF level 8: (16 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 8*)

**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

Recommended prior knowledge and skills: There are no pre-entry requirements for this Unit. However, it would be beneficial if candidates had some knowledge of Additional Support Needs or experience of working with individuals with ASN.

Core Skills: There may be opportunities to gather evidence towards Core Skills in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Context for delivery: If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

Assessment: This Unit is assessed by 2 instruments of assessment:

- ◆ Outcomes 1 and 2 are assessed jointly by an extended response
- ◆ Outcomes 3 and 4 are assessed jointly by an assignment.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

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The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, Knowledge and/or Skills, and Evidence Requirements are mandatory.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the Knowledge and/or Skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Candidates should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

Outcome 1

Explain the factors that influence the curriculum for individuals with additional support needs

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Range of curriculae
- ◆ Features of special learning programmes
- ◆ Social contexts which influence learning
- ◆ Constraints which influence delivery of learning

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ explain the features of special learning programmes
- ◆ explain the social factors that may influence the curriculum for individuals with additional support needs
- ◆ describe the range of constraints which may affect programme planning and delivery

Assessment Guidelines

Outcome 1 is assessed jointly with Outcome 2 by an extended response (1,000–1,250 words).

Outcome 2

Analyse aims and objectives of programme plans and relate this to the needs of the learner

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Programme content and balance in relation to the aims and objectives
- ◆ Needs of the learner — age and stage — appropriate to the programme being offered
- ◆ The impact of resources on programme planning

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Additional Support Needs: Programme Planning

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ explain how the aims and objectives of the programme content are appropriate to the age/stage of the learner
- ◆ describe the types and range of skills that may be included in a programme
- ◆ explain how the balance between skills and knowledge is appropriate to the needs of the age/stage of the learner
- ◆ analyse how well the resources identified to support the delivery of the programme meet the requirements for the learner

Assessment Guidelines

Outcome 2 is assessed with Outcome 1 by an extended response (1,000–1,250 words).

Outcome 3

Plan a learning programme for a specific learning need

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Specific stage/stages of development/learning need
- ◆ Policies relevant local and national policies
- ◆ Resources to support delivery
- ◆ Goals to be achieved
- ◆ Planning
- ◆ Organisational skills

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ identify the stage/stages of development/learning need
- ◆ select appropriate resources
- ◆ plan the programme in a way that clearly shows the goals to be achieved
- ◆ plan a programme which takes account of appropriate policies
- ◆ select appropriate teaching/learning methods to support the learner
- ◆ demonstrate good organisational skills

Assessment Guidelines

Outcomes 3 and 4 should be assessed jointly by an assignment (2,000–2,500 words).

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Additional Support Needs: Programme Planning

Outcome 4

Evaluate the programme in relation to its potential implementation

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Evaluation tools
- ◆ Evaluation techniques
- ◆ Evaluation of resources
- ◆ Evaluation of plan
- ◆ Evaluation of planned teaching /learning methods

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ select and use appropriate evaluation tool/ techniques
- ◆ evaluate aspects of the plan relating to relevance and suitability for learner
- ◆ evaluate plan in relation to appropriateness of use of resources
- ◆ assess planned teaching programme/ proposed learning methods in relation to meeting the learner's needs

Assessment Guidelines

Outcome 4 is assessed jointly with Outcome 3 by an assignment. This should include an evaluation report (assignment including evaluation report (2,000–2,500 words)).

Administrative Information

Unit code: F2C7 35

Unit title: Additional Support Needs: Programme Planning

Superclass category: GB

Original date of publication: May 2007

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History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

Source: SQA

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Additional Support Needs: Programme Planning

This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 80 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit is designed to provide candidates with the knowledge and skills to develop specific learning plans for individuals with ASN. Outcomes 1 and 2 provide knowledge on the range of curriculae and programme planning. Outcomes 3 and 4 allow candidates to look at the needs of specified individual(s), to prepare a programme appropriate to the individual's needs and to evaluate the effectiveness of the planned programme.

Outcome 1

The following should be explored:

The nature and types of special learning programmes for individuals with ASN including physical disabilities, sensory impairment and behavioural difficulties.

Social contexts: education/training environment: age related aspects; gender aspects: peer group.

Constraints: financial: equipment/materials/staffing.

Outcome 2 should cover the aims and objectives of different types of programme and how these will help meet identified needs. It also covers how age and stage can influence the content of programmes. The importance of identifying and securing adequate resources to deliver the programme also needs to be explored.

Outcome 3 looks at the mechanics of developing a programme: planning and organisational skills; identifying specific needs in relation to age and stage; taking into account relevant policies and legislation; required resources; setting goals.

Outcome 4 draws on the previous Outcomes to evaluate the implementation of the learning programme. A range of evaluation tools and methodology should be explored.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

There are two assessments for this Unit. The first is an extended response covering Outcomes 1 and 2 the second is an assignment to cover Outcomes 3 and 4. The Unit requires candidates to examine the factors that may influence the curriculum for individuals with ASN and to analyse a range of programmes designed to meet learners' needs. They will also research the needs of specified learner(s) and develop a learning programme appropriate to identified needs. Finally, they will evaluate the programme in relation to meeting the learner's needs. It is anticipated that candidates will be able to base their research on their workplace (or placement) practice. However, should this not be possible, case studies/scenarios could be used to generate the assignments.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Additional Support Needs: Programme Planning

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills in this Unit. However, there are clear opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills components in Communication (Written Communication — all Outcomes), Problem Solving (Analysis —all Outcomes).

Open learning

This Unit is suitable for delivery in a variety of modes including open, distance and blended learning.

Candidates with disabilities and/or additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. Further advice can be found in the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs* (www.sqa.org.uk).

General information for candidates

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On completion of the Unit the candidate should be able to:

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- 3 Plan a learning programme for a specific learning need.
- 4 Evaluate the programme in relation to its potential implementation.

There are two assessments for this Unit. Outcomes 1 and 2 will be assessed together in an extended response (1,000–1,250 words) and Outcomes 3 and 4 by a joint assignment (2,000–2,500 words).