

Personal Development: Practical Abilities (SCQF level 5) Unit

SCQF: level 5 (6 SCQF credit points)

Unit code: H18W 45

Unit outline

The general aim of this Unit is to allow learners to improve their self-reliance and confidence by demonstrating their practical abilities while participating in one or more projects, with minimum support.

Learners who complete this Unit will be able to:

- 1 prepare to develop practical abilities within a project(s)
- 2 develop practical abilities
- 3 review their own practical abilities used in a project(s)

This Unit is a mandatory Unit of the Personal Development Award at SCQF level 5 and is also available as a free-standing Unit. The *Unit Specification* should be read in conjunction with the *Unit Support Notes*, which provides advice and guidance on delivery, assessment approaches, and development of skills for learning, skills for life, and skills for work. Exemplification of the standards in this Unit is given in *Unit Assessment Support*.

Recommended entry

Entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre.

Core Skills

Achievement of this Unit gives automatic certification of the following Core Skill component for the Unit:

Critical Thinking at SCQF level 5

Equality and inclusion

This Unit Specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods, or considering alternative evidence. For further information please refer to the *Unit Support Notes*.

Standards

Outcomes and assessment standards

Outcome 1

The learner will:

- 1 Prepare to develop practical abilities within a project(s) by:**
 - 1.1 identifying strengths and limitations within own practical abilities in relation to a specific project(s)
 - 1.2 identifying targets for the development of these practical abilities

Outcome 2

The learner will:

- 2 Develop practical abilities by:**
 - 2.1 identifying detailed activities to meet the target
 - 2.2 carrying out the activities

Outcome 3

The learner will:

- 3 Review their own practical abilities used in a project(s) by:**
 - 3.1 explaining progress made towards achieving targets
 - 3.2 explaining areas for further development of their own practical abilities

Evidence Requirements for the Unit

Assessors should use their professional judgement, subject knowledge and experience, and understanding of their learners to determine the most appropriate ways to generate evidence and the conditions and contexts in which they are used.

Assessment evidence can be drawn from a variety of sources and presented in a variety of formats. The evidence does not need to be achieved in one activity, but can be assembled from a variety of tasks and assessments undertaken throughout the Award. Evidence may be presented for individual Outcomes or gathered for the Unit or Award as a whole by combining assessment holistically in one single activity.

- ◆ Learners should be given templates to ensure they have the opportunity to record achievement for all Outcomes and Assessment Standards.
- ◆ Learners should keep records of their activities and tasks throughout the project.
- ◆ Learner work should be confirmed by the teacher/lecturer as meeting the relevant Assessment Standard.

Exemplification of assessment will be provided in *Unit Assessment Support*. Advice and guidance on possible approaches to assessment is provided in the *Unit Support Notes*.

Development of skills for learning, skills for life, and skills for work

It is expected that learners will develop broad, generic skills through this Unit. The skills that learners will be expected to improve on and develop through the Unit are based on SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work* and drawn from the main skills areas listed below. These must be built into the Unit where there are appropriate opportunities.

1 Literacy

1.3 Listening and talking

3 Health and wellbeing

3.1 Personal learning

4 Employability, enterprise, and citizenship

4.3 Working with others

5 Thinking skills

5.3 Applying

Amplification of these is given in SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work*. The level of these skills should be at the same SCQF level of the Unit and be consistent with the SCQF level descriptor. Further information on building in skills for learning, skills for life, and skills for work is given in the *Unit Support Notes*.

Thinking skills shown in this Unit provide automatic certification of the Core Skill components:
Critical Thinking at SCQF level 5

Administrative information

Published: April 2012 (version 1.0)

Superclass: HB

History of changes to Award Unit Specification

| Version | Description of change | Authorised by | Date |
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Note: readers are advised to check SQA's website: www.sqa.org.uk to ensure they are using the most up-to-date version of the Unit Specification.

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