



# **Assessment Strategy**

## **Level 1 in Youth Work**

## Introduction

The National Youth Agency (NYA) is responsible for the development and endorsement of Youth Work qualifications in England using the [Standard Qualification Framework](#) for Youth Work (SQF). The Level 1 Award in Youth Work is endorsed by the NYA to meet the requirements of a Level 1 Youth Worker as specified in the SQF.

This assessment strategy, developed in partnership with Awarding Organisations/Bodies (AO/Bs<sup>1</sup>) sets out the requirements and expectations for quality assurance in relation to:

- > Assessment
- > Tutors
- > Assessors

It is to be read in conjunction with regulatory requirements that Awarding Organisations/Bodies (AO/Bs) **must** meet when awarding qualifications as required by Ofqual in England.

The NYA, sector-based organisations and AO/Bs have developed the Level 1 Award in Youth Work as a knowledge based qualification which introduces learners to Youth Work and the role of Youth Workers. Assessment methods for the units will be developed by AO/Bs which are proportionate to the level and breadth of knowledge.

## Assessment requirements

Assessment evidence **must**, wherever possible, be holistic. This means that rather than collecting individual pieces of evidence for each assessment criterion, learners **must** gather evidence to illustrate knowledge and understanding:

- > Across units that naturally link together
- > Evidence must be authentic, current, sufficient, fit for purpose and valid

## Expertise of tutors, assessors and those assuring quality

The NYA acknowledge the vital role that tutors, assessors and those assuring quality have in maintaining the integrity of Youth Work qualifications. The NYA recognises the importance of subject specific knowledge and therefore recommends, where possible, that Youth Workers are involved in the delivery of the Level 1 Award in Youth Work. AO/Bs and other stakeholders have to have confidence in the actions and decisions of tutors, assessors and those assuring quality.

## Tutors must:

- > Have a sound understanding of the Standard Qualification Framework for Youth Work

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<sup>1</sup> The acronym AO/Bs is used throughout to describe Awarding Organisations in England and Awarding Bodies in Wales

- > Be able to evidence continued professional development, including fieldwork<sup>2</sup> activities, within the last 3 years

### **Assessors must:**

- > Have a sound understanding of the Standard Qualification Framework for Youth Work
- > Hold or be working towards a recognised assessor qualification\*\* ^^ (i.e. D32/33, A1)
- > Be committed to, and able to evidence, further training and development

\*\* Individuals that do not hold a recognised qualification will be expected to obtain one within 24 months of approval.

^^ Individuals that do not hold a recognised qualification **must** have their assessment/moderation decisions countersigned by a qualified member of staff.

### **Those internally assuring quality must:**

- > Have recent experience (within the last three years) of internal quality assurance preferably within an occupational area with relevance to youth work
- > Have a sound understanding of the Standard Qualification Framework for Youth Work
- > Hold or be working towards an Internal Quality Assurance qualification (i.e. D.34, V1)
- > Be committed to, and able to evidence, further training and development

### **Those externally assuring quality must:**

- > Have a sound understanding of the Standard Qualification Framework for Youth Work
- > Have recent experience of external quality assurance
- > Hold or be working towards an external quality assurance qualification

### **Quality Assurance**

The NYA and the AO/B will regularly monitor the effectiveness of the Assessment Strategy. It will be reviewed annually and revised where necessary.

Mechanisms will be established through the AO/Bs annual meetings with the NYA to enable AO/Bs to provide feedback that will assist in the review and evaluation of the Assessment Strategy. The feedback will also be used to review assessment and quality assurance practices, identify and promulgate good practice and inform improvement to the strategy and to future revisions to qualifications.

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<sup>2</sup> This could include, for example, youth work practice, supervision of practitioners or training delivery