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# **Key Information**

Reference: ST0146

Version: V1.0

Level: 4

Typical duration to gateway: 15 months

Typical EPA period: Eight weeks

Maximum funding: £7000

Route: Education and early years

Approved for delivery: 29/01/2016

Lars code: 401

EQA provider: Ofqual

Review: Retired on 31/03/2023

A dispensation has been applied to the Assessor Coach EPA version 1.0 for this apprenticeship. The dispensation will last to 28th May 2025 or sooner if the learners complete.

End-point assessment organisations (EPAOs) delivering EPAs for the apprenticeship will implement the dispensation as required, supported and monitored by the relevant EQA provider.

The key changes are:

#### **Observation:**

- In exceptional circumstances, where an external subject specialist advisor cannot be appointed, the EPAO can appoint a subject specialist advisor from the employer's organisation.
- The observations should reflect the normal working practices of the apprentice and be conducted either in person or online

A temporary dispensation has been applied to the ST0146 Assessor Coach end-point assessment plan version AP01 for this apprenticeship.

The dispensation removes the requirement for the apprentice to complete the level 2 ICT qualification.

The dispensation will end 28/05/2025 but may be withdrawn sooner if the dispensation is no longer necessary.

# **Apprenticeship Summary**

#### Overview of the Role

The Assessor Coach role has emerged within the Education and Training Sector (ETS), over the last 30 years, originally as a result of the implementation of vocational (competence-based) qualifications (notably NVQs) and formalised work-based education and training.

The Assessor Coach is a dual professional, using their up-to-date professional knowledge and skills to support vocational and professional development across the formal ETS as well as in any employer setting, and at any level. They may, for example, coach and assess apprentices, trainees or new recruits (ranging from young entrants, to new CEOs) in the workplace, commensurate with their own level of experience and qualifications, as required by their employer or their sector.

Assessor Coaches coach and assess vocational learners, usually on a one-to-one basis, in a range of learning environments. Coaching skills involve complex communication techniques to actively listen, provide feedback and to engage learners in planning their individualised learning programme. These skills are also integral to assessing learners' competence in relation to work-related/industry standards and life skills.

Assessor Coaches work co-operatively with other ETS or professionals (such as teachers, human resource professionals and mentors/supervisors in the workplace) in supporting the learner's development of vocational competence and the wider skills that relate to employability and professionalism.

#### **Typical Job Titles**

Typical job titles include: Assessor and Coach.

### **Assessment Methods**

This end-point assessment (EPA) consists of two assessment methods:



Observations followed by questions and answers



Professional discussion informed by the showcase

#### **Assessment Order**

The assessments can take place in any order and will typically be carried out on the same day. The professional discussion can take place before, after or between the observations, according to the availability of the learners to be mentored.

#### **EPA Window**

The end-point assessment must be completed within eight weeks of gateway acceptance.

#### **Gateway Considerations**

Before the apprentice can start their EPA, the training provider is required to upload the following:

- Photo ID
- Level 2 ICT Qualification (see temporary dispensation information)
- Level 1 Safeguarding
- Showcase and Mapping and Tracking Form

At gateway, the training provider is also requested sign a declaration to confirm that the English and maths requirements have been met in line with the funding rules.



#### **Assessment Overview**

This includes two Assessor Coach sessions with a minimum of two different learners, totalling 120 minutes, with a potential variance of 10% depending on the needs of the learners being assessed/coached by the Assessor Coach apprentice. The observation will involve learners who will be taking part in a genuine coaching/assessing session, not role-playing. It will usually be a one-to-one session, but group coaching/an assessing session may also be observed, other learners will not be present during these observations.

The End-Point Assessor must take detailed notes during/whilst completing the observations, mapped or cross-referenced to each of the 15 knowledge and skills criteria and the six professional behaviours. Should the apprentice be observed compromising safety or infringing other codes of practice, the EPA will be terminated and a fail will be recorded.

Following the Assessor Coach's observation, the End-Point Assessor (following advice from the Subject Advisor where necessary) will question the apprentice in order to clarify any specific sector/specialist practice(s) arising from the observation (e.g. "Why did you take that approach?"), or to address skills or behaviours that may not have been apparent (e.g. "What would you have done if there was a safety issue here?").

The duration of the questioning relates to any clarification required around the knowledge, skills or behaviour, and will therefore be specific to each Assessor Coach observation and each apprentice. Questioning, where needed will not exceed 10% of the total time of the observation. The Assessor Coach observations represent a total of 70% of the EPA.

#### **Grading**

This assessment is graded as distinction, pass or fail according to the assessment criteria.

The Assessor Coach observations are scored out of a possible 42 points, with a **weighting of x2** added. Therefore, this assessment represents 70% of the end-point assessment activities.

If zero points (not demonstrated) are assigned to any of the assessment criteria, this assessment will be graded as a fail.

To achieve a pass:

- all of the criteria must be allocated at least one point
- at least 10 of the criteria must be allocated two points
- the apprentice must achieve a minimum score of 62 (after x2 weighting).

To achieve a distinction:

- all of the criteria must be allocated at least one point
- at least 15 of the criteria must be allocated 2 points
- the apprentice must achieve a minimum score of 72 (after x2 weighting).

Point Alloc	Point Allocation		
O Points Not demonstrated The relevant skills, knowledge and behaviours are not fully evident in the observed practice or explained partially in subsequent questioning.			
1 Point	Partially demonstrated	Relevant skills and behaviours have been observed or partially explained through questioning. Questioning, however, reveals only a superficial understanding of the knowledge requirements.	
2 Points	Well demonstrated	All relevant skills, knowledge and behaviours have been demonstrated effectively and/or comprehensively explained or justified in subsequent questioning.	

Apprentices will be deemed to have failed if zero points '0' (not demonstrated) is allocated in any of the knowledge, skills and behaviour (KSB) criteria, listed in the table below.

Grade	Points Awarded	Weighted (x2) Points Allocated
Distinction	36-42	72-84
Pass	31-35	62-70
Fail	0-30	61 or below

#### **Observations - Assessment Criteria**

#### The Assessor-Coach will be able to: (Skills)

#### Plan coaching and assessment

- S1 facilitate access to relevant, current information advice and guidance (IAG)
- S2 apply or reference relevant initial and diagnostic assessment
- S3 agree a programme of development and assessment, setting realistic but challenging goals that meet learners' and employers' needs
- S4 liaise with employers, colleagues and others to support learners' development

#### **Deliver coaching support**

- S5 anticipate and overcome barriers to progress and inspire achievement, ensuring that learning is inclusive and supports diversity
- S6 highlight learners' mathematics and English needs, and signposts to appropriate support
- S7 give timely feedback on progress towards mastery of relevant skills and knowledge
- S8 provide access to pastoral support and guidance
- S9 promote the safe and effective use of digital and mobile technologies to support learners and the Assessor-Coach role
- S10 agree and record targets and progress, complying with quality, confidentiality and data protection requirements

#### **Assess learners**

- S11 use effective listening, assertiveness and questioning to support learners' to engage with their learning plans and with assessment criteria and processes
- S12 comply with awarding organisation requirements and local quality and safety guidelines

#### **Support quality improvement**

- S13 support peer review and quality assurance procedures
- S14 report concerns about quality and safeguarding through appropriate channels
- S15 maintain the currency of their own knowledge and skills, with reference to workplace practice and feedback from others

#### Professional behaviours. The Assessor-Coach will:

- a. Inspires, motivates and raises learners' aspirations through their passion for the sector
- b. Operates at all times to ethical and legal standard and within professional boundaries
- c. Models and encourages mutual respect, displaying a deep understanding of equality and diversity, with and between learners, colleagues and appropriate agencies
- d. Is resilient and adaptable when dealing with challenge and change and maintaining focus and self-control
- e. Values the importance of mathematics, English and ICT in learners' future economic and social well being motivate and raise learners' aspirations through their passion for the sector
- f. Evaluates and improves their own professional practice in relation to the Professional Standards for Teachers and Educators in the Education and Training sector

# Professional Discussion

#### **Assessment Overview**

During the professional discussion, the End-Point Assessor will clarify and validate the apprentice's claim to meeting the Assessor Coach standard through ongoing practice, illustrated in the exemplary evidence provided in the showcase, mapped or cross-referenced to the knowledge, skills and behaviours listed in the thematic/synoptic areas.

When the End-Point Assessor has received the showcase, they will complete a desk-based evaluation of the evidence submitted in relation to the knowledge, skills and behaviours of the standard. Questions will be prepared by the End-Point Assessor in readiness for the EPA on-site visit and the professional discussion.

The prepared questions will address and clarify any practices where there appears to be gaps in fully meeting the standard. The End-Point Assessor will be advised by the Subject Advisor, where appointed, in relation to any sector/specialist knowledge and principles.

The professional discussion session will last for a maximum of 60 minutes, with a variance of 10% allowed. The professional discussion represents a total of 30% of the EPA.

#### **Grading**

This assessment is graded as distinction, pass or fail according to the grading criteria.

The professional discussion is scored out of a maximum of 36 points and represents 30% of the end-point assessment activities.

In order to achieve a pass for this assessment:

- each of the thematic/synoptic areas must be awarded a pass for authenticity and at least one point in all other criteria
- the apprentice must achieve a minimum score of 24 points.

In order to achieve a distinction for this assessment:

- each of the thematic/synoptic areas must be awarded a pass for authenticity and at least one point in all other criteria
- the apprentice must achieve a minimum score of 30 points.

If any of the thematic/synoptic areas are marked as a fail for authenticity or are awarded zero points in any other criteria, this assessment will be graded as a fail.

Grade	Points Allocated	Weighted (x1) Points Allocated
Distinction	30-36	30-36
Pass	24-29	24-29
Fail	0-23	23 or below

### **Professional Discussion - Point Allocation**

PD = Professional discussion AC = Assessor Coach

<b>Assessment Criterion</b>		Points Allocated	
a. Authenticity	Is there evidence to clearly demonstrate that this is the apprentice's own work?	Fail  A fail for authenticity renders the evidence for this area unreliable leading to a 'fail' overall.	
If passed			
The Assessment	The Assessment Criterion from the table below, are allocated points for Relevance, Effectiveness and Understanding as follows:		
<b>0 Points</b> = Not Demonstrated <b>1 Point</b> = Partially Demonstrated <b>2 Points</b> = Well Demonstrated			

<b>Assessment Criterion</b>	Not Demonstrated (0 Points)	Partially Demonstrated (1 Point)	Well Demonstrated (2 Points)
b. Relevance	Relevant criteria or behaviour have not been addressed or the evidence presented is not relevant.	Some relevant evidence has been presented, but other evidence lacks relevance.	All the showcase evidence presented during the PD is well focussed and relevant to the related criteria/ behaviours.
c. Effectiveness	During the PD the advice and support given by the AC, to learners, is incorrect or outdated, or fails to address current accepted effective practice.	During the PD the advice and support given by the AC addresses some aspects of effective practice, but could usefully address other areas, or be more up-to-date.	During the PD the AC's advice and support addresses essential and important aspects of relevant, upto-date industry and/or specialist practice.
d. Understanding	During the PD the AC apprentice has failed to demonstrate an understanding of the importance or impact of the relevant assessment theme.	During the PD the AC has demonstrated a basic understanding of the relevant theme, but their awareness of its wider impact is limited.	During the PD the AC is fully able to explain the value and impact of the assessment theme, in respect of all stakeholders.

### **Professional Discussion - Assessment Criteria**

Thematic/Synoptic Assessment Area	Assessment Criteria	
	Liaising with colleagues a	nd relevant stakeholders to:
	ensure access to valid	, current IAG
l.	• identify and support a	dditional english and maths learning needs
	identify other specialist support needs, provided by relevant professionals	
	<ul> <li>suggest adjustments t</li> </ul>	o planned 'off-job' training
	suggest adjustments to planned work experience (via the employer).	
Skills		Knowledge
S1 facilitate access to relevant, current information advice and guidance (IAG)		K1 sources of and how to access up-to-date and valid IAG
S3 agree a programme of development and ass realistic but challenging goals that meet learners		K3 how to agree individual programmes that inspire and challenge learners to achieve current work-related knowledge and skills

S4 liaise with employers, colleagues and others to support learners' development		K4 additional support for learners available through workplace and provider-based colleague
S6 highlight learners' mathematics and English needs, and signposts to appropriate support		K6 maths and English underpinning vocational skills and how to access additional support
Thematic/Synoptic Assessment Area	Assessment Criteria	
II.	<ul> <li>Coaching to provide pastoral support and facilitate progress:</li> <li>use appropriate interpersonal skills to facilitate a 'learner-centred' approach to supporting learners. Relevant skills include 'active listening', 'motivational dialogue', structured coaching approaches (such as GROW) and effective action planning and review.</li> </ul>	
Skills		Knowledge
S5 anticipate and overcome barriers to progress and inspire achievement, ensuring that learning is inclusive and supports diversity		K5 strategies for inspiring learners, increasing their resilience in overcoming barriers and obstacles, and in raising concerns
S8 provide access to pastoral support and guidance		K8 ways of supporting the learner's well-being
S11 use effective listening, assertiveness and questioning to support learners' to engage with their learning plans and with assessment criteria and processes		K11 the effective use of active listening, assertiveness and questioning skills to support retention, progress and achievement
Thematic/Synoptic Assessment Area	Assessment Criteria	

	Using digital and mobile technologies effectively, efficiently and safely to:	
III.	communicate with learners and stakeholders	
	<ul> <li>support assessment p</li> </ul>	rocesses
	maintaining secure bu	t easily accessible records.
Skills	·	Knowledge
S9 promote the safe and effective use of digital technologies to support learners and the Assess		
S10 agree and record targets and progress, comconfidentiality and data protection requirements		
Thematic/Synoptic Assessment Area	Assessment Criteria	
IV.	<ul> <li>Assessing learners and providing feedback by:</li> <li>facilitating Assessment for Learning (formative assessment) – an ongoing process of monitor evaluation and review of learning, ensuring that learners are learning the right things in the right version.</li> </ul>	
	summatively assessing	g achievement of learning milestones and/or standards.
Skills		Knowledge
S2 apply or reference relevant initial and diagn	ostic assessment	K2 relevant forms of assessment to identify individual needs
S7 give timely feedback on progress towards mastery of relevant skills and knowledge		K7 effective practice in giving feedback to guide progress and achievement
S11 use effective listening, assertiveness and questioning to support learners' to engage with their learning plans and with assessment criteria and processes		K11 the effective use of active listening, assertiveness and questioning skills to support retention, progress and achievement
Thematic/Synoptic Assessment Area	<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	

V.	<ul> <li>Maintaining the quality and safety of provision:</li> <li>maintaining the quality and currency of own professional skills and knowledge</li> <li>supporting quality improvement</li> <li>ensuring learners' safety and safeguarding requirements</li> <li>complying with relevant organisational guidelines and legislation.</li> </ul>	
Skills		Knowledge
S12 comply with awarding organisation requirements and local quality and safety guidelines		K12 the quality and safety requirements of assessment and procedures for reporting concern
S13 support peer review and quality assurance procedures		K13 Internal and External quality procedures and the role of peer review
S14 report concerns about quality and safeguarding through appropriate channels		K14 organisational and legislative requirements for reporting concerns about quality and safeguarding
S15 maintain the currency of their own knowledge and skills, with reference to workplace practice and feedback from others		K15 how to maintain occupational currency and ways to improve coaching
Thematic/Synoptic Assessment Area	Assessment Criteria	
VI.	Understanding and demonstrating professionalism in all aspects of the role.	
Professional Behaviours		

- a. Inspires, motivates and raises learners' aspirations through their passion for the sector
- b. Operates at all times to ethical and legal standard and within professional boundaries
- c. Models and encourages mutual respect, displaying a deep understanding of equality and diversity, with and between learners, colleagues and appropriate agencies
- d. Is resilient and adaptable when dealing with challenge and change and maintaining focus and self-control
- e. Values the importance of mathematics, English and ICT in learners' future economic and social well being
- f. Evaluates and improves their own professional practice in relation to the Professional Standards for Teachers and Educators in the Education and Training sector

### **Overall Grading**

This standard is graded as distinction, pass or fail.

Each assessment component is graded individually. Once an apprentice has completed all assessment components, the weighted scores for each assessment are added together to determine the overall grade, using the table below.

Points Allocated	Overall Grade
0 - 85	Fail
85-101	Pass
102-120	Distinction

A fail in either assessment component will result in a fail overall.

### Resits and Retakes

If an apprentice fails either of the assessment components, they may be eligible for a resit or retake. An apprentice may attempt a **maximum of two resits or retakes** in the **six-month period** following the initial assessment date.

### **Appeals**

Training Qualifications UK's Appeals Policy, including time frames, can be found here.