

GUIDANCE NOTE

Issued: 24th March 2020

Valid Until: 31st December 2020

ADULT CARE END-POINT ASSESSMENT PLAN ADAPTATIONS

The following guidance is designed to enable end-point assessment organisations (EPAOs) to take the actions described in this guidance if they deem it necessary. The scope of this guidance is limited to those EPAOs working with NSAR as their EQAO and for only those adult care apprenticeship standards listed here:

Adult Care Worker (Level 2) | Lead Adult Care Worker (Level 3)

NSAR is aware that adult care end-point assessment is becoming increasingly challenging because of the current Covid-19 situation. In response to this there are two potential courses of action available:

1. Implement any break in learning that has been introduced by the ESFA in light of the current Covid-19 situation, as a way to postpone end-point assessment. Where this is not an option then
2. EPAOs can follow the guidance below -

Current Gateway requirements:	What can be introduced as a temporary measure:
<p>Evidence of achievement of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 2/3 Diploma in Care/Adult Care (depending on level of apprenticeship) • Level 1 or 2 Literacy and Numeracy (depending on level of apprenticeship) • Complete the 15 standards as set out in the Care Certificate 	<p>Accept suitable evidence of achievement offered as a 'proxy' for certification or achievement and allow the apprentice to proceed should they wish but on the understanding that apprenticeship certification for the apprenticeship cannot and will not be claimed by the EPAO until the actual evidence, e.g. Diploma or Care certificate or other formal certification, is produced.</p>
<p>In the last three months of the apprenticeship following completion of the Diploma, collate testimonies from people who use the service.</p>	<p>This aspect of the assessment plan, Gateway requirements has been suspended for the duration of the guidance note.</p> <p>Note that post this pandemic we will be in a position to issue new guidance on the service user testimony. The draft version of this guidance will be available for consultation during the period of this guidance.</p>



Where the Assessment Plan says:	The following is possible:
Candidates can only apply to undertake the discussion component once the multiple choice assessment has been achieved.	The SJT and professional discussion can be taken in any order.
The situational judgement test will take place under examination conditions run by the independent assessment organisation.	Use remote proctoring within on-line assessment to allow apprentices to access the SJT from any location (e.g. from home), maintaining the need for secure exam conditions-style environments.
The professional discussion may take place in the workplace.	All professional discussion can be done remotely following appropriate security and quality assurance practices.

The EPAO may be asked to demonstrate how each of these conditions has been satisfied in the course of EQA monitoring.

This situation is continually evolving, and you should take appropriate precautions to ensure that any actions taken remain appropriate, safeguards apprentices and reflects latest Government advice. This guidance is valid until 30th December 2020, unless superseded by further guidance. Continue to check www.nsar.co.uk/eqa for further information.