

List of proposed generic standards

This lists the proposed generic standards which would apply across all 15 professions. These standards are blue in the clean version of the revised standards for each profession.

Registrants must:

1. be able to practise safely and effectively within their scope of practice

- 1.1 know the limits of their practice and when to seek advice or refer to another professional or service
- 1.2 recognise the need to manage their own workload and resources safely and effectively

2. be able to practise within the legal and ethical boundaries of their profession

- 2.1 understand the need to promote and protect the service user's interests at all times
- 2.2 understand the importance of safeguarding and the need to engage in appropriate safeguarding processes where necessary
- 2.3 understand what is required of them by the Health and Care Professions Council
- 2.4 understand the need to respect and uphold the rights, dignity, values, and autonomy of service users including their role in the diagnostic and therapeutic process and in maintaining health and wellbeing
- 2.5 recognise that relationships with service users should be based on mutual respect and trust, and be able to maintain high standards of care even in situations of personal incompatibility
- 2.6 understand the importance of and be able to obtain informed consent
- 2.7 be able to exercise a professional duty of care
- 2.8 understand current legislation applicable to the work of their profession

3. be able to maintain fitness to practise

- 3.1 understand the need to maintain high standards of personal and professional conduct
- 3.2 understand the importance of maintaining their own mental and physical health and be able to take appropriate action if their health may affect their ability to practise safely and effectively
- 3.3 understand the role that coping strategies can play in maintaining fitness to practise and the importance of seeking help and support when necessary
- 3.4 understand both the need to keep skills and knowledge up to date and the importance of continuous professional development

4. be able to practise as an autonomous professional, exercising their own professional judgement

- 4.1 recognise that they are personally responsible for and must be able to justify their decisions
- 4.2 be able to use their skills, knowledge and experience, and the information available to them, to make informed decisions or initiate solutions where necessary

- 4.3 be able to make reasoned decisions to initiate, continue, modify or cease treatment or the use of techniques or procedures, and record the decisions and reasoning appropriately
- 4.4 be able to make and receive appropriate referrals
- 4.5 be able to initiate resolution of problems and be able to exercise personal initiative
- 4.6 be able to demonstrate a logical and systematic approach to problem solving
- 4.7 be able to use research, reasoning and problem solving skills to determine appropriate actions
- 4.8 understand the importance of active participation in training, supervision and mentoring

5. be aware of the impact of culture, equality and diversity on practice

- 5.1 understand the need to adapt practice to respond appropriately to the needs of all different groups and individuals
- 5.2 be aware of the impact of their own values and beliefs on practice
- 5.3 be aware of the characteristics and consequences of verbal and non-verbal communication and how this can be affected by factors such as age, culture, disability, ethnicity, gender, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, sex, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, and spiritual or religious beliefs

6. be able to practise in a non-discriminatory and inclusive manner

- 6.1 be aware of the characteristics and consequences of barriers to inclusion

7. understand the importance of and be able to maintain confidentiality

- 7.1 be aware of the limits of the concept of confidentiality
- 7.2 understand the principles of information governance and be aware of the safe and effective use of health, and social care and other relevant information
- 7.3 be able to recognise and respond appropriately to situations where it is necessary to share information to safeguard service users or the wider public

8. be able to communicate effectively

- 8.1 be able to use effective and appropriate verbal and non-verbal skills to communicate with service users, carers, colleagues and others
- 8.2 be able to communicate in English to the standard equivalent to level 7 of the International English Language Testing System, with no element below 6.5¹
- 8.3 be able to work with service users or their carers to facilitate the service user's preferred role in decision-making, and provide service users and carers with the information they may need where appropriate
- 8.4 be able to modify their means of communication to address the individual communication needs and preferences of service users and carers, and remove any barriers to communication where possible
- 8.5 be able to use information and communication technologies appropriate to their practice

¹ With the exception of Speech and Language Therapists who require level 8 with no element below 7.5.

9. be able to work appropriately with others

- 9.1 be able to work, where appropriate, in partnership with service users, their relatives and carers, other professionals, support staff and others
- 9.2 understand the need to build and sustain professional relationships as both an independent practitioner and collaboratively as a member of a team
- 9.3 be able to contribute effectively to work undertaken as part of a multi-disciplinary team
- 9.4 understand the qualities, behaviours and benefits of leadership and be able to apply them in the context of your practice

10. be able to maintain records appropriately

- 10.1 be able to keep accurate, comprehensive and comprehensible records in accordance with applicable legislation, protocols and guidelines
- 10.2 recognise the need to manage records and all other information in accordance with applicable legislation, protocols and guidelines

11. be able to reflect on and review practice

- 11.1 understand the value of reflection on practice and the need to record the outcome of such reflection
- 11.2 recognise the value of case conferences and other methods of review

12. be able to assure the quality of their practice

- 12.1 be able to engage in evidence-based practice
- 12.2 be able to gather and use feedback and information, including qualitative and quantitative data, that helps to evaluate the responses of service users to their care
- 12.3 be able to monitor and systematically evaluate the quality of practice, and maintain an effective audit trail to work towards continual improvement
- 12.4 be able to participate in audit procedures and quality management, including quality control, quality assurance and the use of appropriate outcome measures
- 12.5 be able to evaluate intervention plans using recognised outcome measures and revise the plans as necessary in conjunction with the service user
- 12.6 recognise the value of contributing to the generation of data for quality assurance and improvement programmes

13. understand the key concepts of the knowledge base relevant to their profession

- 13.1 understand the structure and function of the human body, together with knowledge of health, disease, disorder and dysfunction, relevant to their profession
- 13.2 be aware of the principles and applications of scientific enquiry, including the evaluation of treatment efficacy and the research process

14. be able to draw on appropriate knowledge and skills to inform practice

- 14.1 be able to change their practice as needed to take account of new developments, technologies and changing contexts
- 14.2 be able to gather appropriate information

- 14.3 be able to analyse and critically evaluate the information collected
- 14.4 be able to select and use appropriate assessment techniques
- 14.5 be able to undertake and record a thorough, sensitive and detailed assessment, using appropriate techniques and equipment
- 14.6 be able to undertake or arrange investigations as appropriate
- 14.7 be able to conduct appropriate diagnostic or monitoring procedures, treatment, therapy or other actions safely and effectively
- 14.8 be aware of a range of research methodologies
- 14.9 recognise the value of research to the critical evaluation of practice
- 14.10 be able to critically evaluate research and other evidence to inform their own practice

15. understand the need to establish and maintain a safe practice environment

- 15.1 understand the need to maintain the safety of both service users and those involved in their care
- 15.2 be aware of applicable health and safety legislation, and any relevant safety policies and procedures in force at the workplace, such as incident reporting, and be able to act in accordance with these
- 15.3 be able to work safely, including being able to select appropriate hazard control and risk management, reduction or elimination techniques in a safe manner and in accordance with health and safety legislation
- 15.4 be able to select appropriate personal protective equipment and use it correctly
- 15.5 be able to establish safe environments for practice, which appropriately manages risk to service users, those treating them and others, including the use of hazard control and particularly infection control