

# GPSAS

## End-Point Assessment

### Updates

December 2021



## **Covid-19 apprenticeship measures to run to end of 2021**

Apprenticeship flexibilities and temporary discretions introduced to support the sector through Covid-19 will run until the end of 2021, but a number will then come to an end.

### **Seven of the ten flexibilities will be retained as options to use beyond 1 January 2022. These are:**

1. Observations taking place in simulated environments
2. Remote delivery of assessment (including invigilation)
3. Pauses being allowed between assessment methods during end-point assessment period
4. Assessments taking place outside of usual venues
5. Delivery of assessment methods in any order (when a specified order is in the assessment plan)
6. Exams/tests being online instead of on paper (where originally specified as paper based only)
7. Gateway sign off being done remotely (where originally specified as having to be face to face)

### **Three of the ten flexibilities will be switched off on 31 December 2021. These are:**

8. Changes being made to who sits on the EPA interview/discussion panel (when someone in addition to the independent assessor is specified)
9. Allowing other suitable evidence of achievements being used in replacement of functional skills qualifications at gateway (other mandated qualifications are covered under temporary discretions)
10. Extension to the length of the end-point assessment period (where specified)

The cut-off point for those flexibilities which are being withdrawn is the date at which the actual assessment occurs, not the date of gateway. For example, apprentices that progress through gateway prior to or on 31 December 2021 but have their end-point assessment planned after 1 January 2022 will not be able to use the three flexibilities being withdrawn.



Apprentices that are due to complete their end-point assessment before 31 December 2021 using the flexibility but, due to extenuating circumstances, are unable to do so prior to the flexibility being withdrawn should be given the opportunity to continue to be assessed using the flexibility, if that is still appropriate. The EPAO must keep clear records in these cases.

For more information on the flexibility framework please click the link below

[Flexibility framework / Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education](#)

---

### **Functional Skills Level 2 Attempt**

Please note that from 31 December 2021 any Level 2 apprentices that are presented for EPA will be required to evidence an attempt at Level 2 Functional Skills as per the pre covid funding rules

---

### **The following apprenticeship standards are being revised.**

The trailblazer group has not yet submitted a revised version for approval.

- Adult Care Worker Level 2
- Lead Adult Care Worker Level 3
- Business Administrator Level 3
- Associate Project Manager Level 4

Apprenticeship standards are revised to ensure they comply with current IFATE policies and, where appropriate, to address user feedback.

We will keep you updated on the revised plans.

---

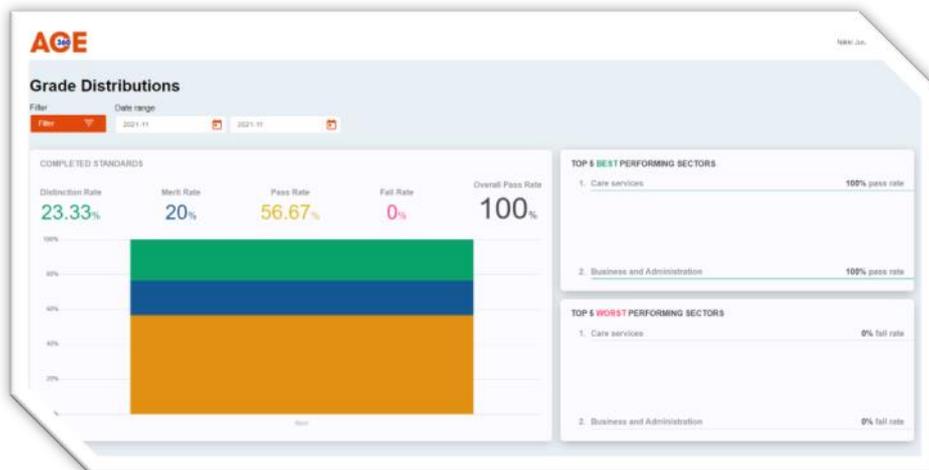
### **New Resources Available**

GPSAS have new resources now available:

- Adult Care Worker Level 2 – Standard Overview presentation with voiceover



**Congratulations** to all your apprentices in achieving their apprenticeships



If you would like to celebrate your apprentices' achievements via social media or via any type of events, please let us know and see how we can support

---

### **Christmas Closure Information**

GPSAS will be closing for the Christmas break on 24 December 2021 and will return on 4 January 2022.

EPA Assessments will be carried out up to 24 December 2021 and results finalised before the team finish for the break.

---



*The team at GPSAS would like to wish all our providers, employers, and apprentices a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.*

