#

Guide to CPCAB’s

External Verification

Visits 2023 - 2024

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# This guidance document is designed to support centres in preparing for External Verification visits.

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1. **CPCAB External Verification Requirements**

As an Awarding Organisation (AO) our regulators require us to have a Centre Assessment Standards Scrutiny Strategy in place (CASS) which focuses on how we scrutinise and monitor assessment decisions made by centres on our behalf. External Verification is one of our main quality assurance activities and this means we must evidence to regulators the processes and checks we have in place. The majority of CPCAB qualifications on the regulated qualifications framework are required to have External Verification. Our team of External Verifiers (EVs) are committed to upholding the required standards of delivery and internal assessment.

All our External Verifiers (EVs) are experienced counsellors and tutors appointed by us who are familiar with CPCAB qualifications and quality assurance processes. Our EVs are there to offer guidance and support and work collaboratively with you, acting as a link with CPCAB. They are a crucial part in ensuring assessment standards and public confidence in our qualifications are upheld.

What this means for centres.

Your allocated External Verifier for the academic year will contact you once you have registered your first groups to arrange their first visit. This visit will either be in person or online depending on the method of delivery at your centre. Your EV will liaise will you and discuss the best option. There may be times that your EV will request an online visit even if you are delivering in person. This could be for a number of reasons which could include the time it would take them to travel to your centre. We always endeavour to allocate you an EV within your region, but this isn’t always possible. We are committed to working relationally with you and your EV will support you through the process.

There are usually two visits per year:

* Autumn term: This is consultative and designed to support centres to meet all requirements. Any shortfalls are recorded in an action plan which the centre must act upon before the next visit.
* Summer term: This is evaluative and focuses more on assessment and associated IQA processes.

There are no additional fees to centres for these visits and they are included within the candidate registration fee. However, a minimum sanctions fee will be issued if your centre registers fewer than the minimum numbers for candidate registrations per academic year. This is to cover the administrative and quality assurance costs of awarding a qualification.

During each visit (in person or online) your EV assesses the centre’s system of internal assessment and moderation as a whole; this is outlined in more detail in the section below. Additional CPCAB quality assurance visits may occur if a centre requires an additional External Verification or support visit by your EV or a member of head office staff.

Please see [Fees Document](https://www.cpcab.co.uk/public_docs/fees-document-current-academic-year) for further information.

1. **Requirements for External Verification Visits and Samples of Candidate’s Work Per Qualification**

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| **Qualification** | **Visit Requirements** | **Sample requirements per qualification** |
| **USM-L2** **ELSK-L2** | No External Verification visits take place for these qualifications as candidate work is independently verified by CPCAB. | N/A |
| **ICSK-L2** | Any centre that delivers ICSK-L2 ONLY are required to have one mandatory annual External Verification Visit at some point in the academic year. | **Candidate portfolios**Your EV will select the names of the candidates work they wish to review.*If your EV has randomly requested samples of candidate work of the same ability (e.g. 4 very strong portfolios) then please liaise with your EV to ensure the sample reflects all abilities.***Please note:** If there are any areas of concern your EV can request further candidate work to review in addition to the samples provided, so please ensure these can be made readily available to your EV. |
| **CSK-L2** **CST-L3** **CAST-L3****LCS-L3** **TC-L4** **LCS-L4** **CYP-L5** **PC-L5** **CBT-L5** **TCSU-L6** | Any centre delivering these qualifications are required to have **two** mandatory annual External Verification visits. The first visit is usually early in the academic year (between October and December) and the second later in the academic year (March-July) depending on when your groups have been registered and the start date of the course. | **Candidate portfolios.**Your EV will select the names of candidates whose portfolios they wish to review from each registered group. *If your EV has randomly requested samples of candidate work of the same ability (e.g. 4 very strong portfolios) then please liaise with your EV to ensure the sample reflects all abilities.***Please note:** If there are any areas of concern your EV can request further candidate work to review in addition to the samples provided, so please ensure these can be made readily available to your EV. |
| If you have received online delivery approval from us and your visit is online, you will be expected to be able to provide access to candidate portfolios. |

1. **External Verification Visit Guidance**

**Visit requirements - prior arrangements and sampling**

You must ensure details and documentary evidence for all registered candidates, qualifications and groups are available at request. Therefore, you may wish to collate portfolios of work and evidence of learning in good time before the visit.

Your EV will communicate with you how they wish the sampling to work and what they specifically will want to see. They will also discuss with you who they would like to meet with at their visit, this is normally all tutors teaching CPCAB qualifications, centre management and a candidate group.

This will be outlined when your EV contacts you with your visit date.

They will want to see evidence of teaching, learning and assessment. The EV visit is designed to gain a holistic overview of the delivery and assessment standards operating within the centre. These are the key components of evidence we request:

* A sample of evidence that captures **each qualification** delivered within the centre AND
* A sample of evidence that captures **each registered tutor assessing** within the centre AND
* A sample of evidence that shows a **diverse range of candidate ability**

The general rule to capture all these factors, and to ensure your EV sees enough, we request “one set of **4 samples** from each registered tutor, for each qualification” as a minimum.

* Your EV will select the names of the candidates they wish to review and will ask you to arrange for these samples to be made available for them. The sample should consist of assessed and moderated work from 4 candidates from each group registered. If the tutor is teaching multiple groups of the same level e.g. CSK-L2, then your EV will just need to see the assessed work of 4 candidates from this tutor across the groups
* Although your EV is selecting the candidate names they would like to review, a cross section of ability is preferred, to include a weak, strong and borderline sample for each qualification. Please liaise with your EV if the selected candidates do not meet this preference. There is diversity in centres delivering our qualifications; therefore, an element of flexibility with evidence sampling will operate.
* If your visit is online these samples **must** be provided prior to the visit.

**Please note:** If there are any areas of concern, or the EV is reviewing a particularly large group, your EV can request further candidate work to review in addition to the 4 samples provided, so please ensure these can be made readily available to your EV.

They will also request to see evidence of:

* **Internal Moderation (IM)** for each tutor delivering a qualification - IM is where an appropriately qualified person at the centre reviews the tutor assessment decisions to ensure they are reliable, consistent, fair and to a national benchmark. It is also to check that the qualification requirements have been understood and that the candidate has been given accurate and appropriate feedback. Evidence of moderation sampling across a range of assessment for each group/tutor must be provided for each qualification submitted for External Verification. Please refer to our [guidance document](https://www.cpcab.co.uk/public_docs/guide_to_internal_moderation_verification) for minimum requirements.
* **Internal Verification (IV)** has taken place for each qualification – This takes place within the centre at least annually for each qualification and checks that standards are upheld across the design, delivery and assessment of the qualification.
* Process of recognition of prior learning (RPL) and reasonable adjustments and special consideration. Please ensure this evidence is provided for them. The EV may request to see copies of schemes of work, CPD records and any centre policies.

**During the visit:**

* Your EV will request (if the visit is in person) a suitable room to provide enough working space for them to speak with staff and look at candidate evidence comfortably. If the visit is online, access to candidate portfolios **must** be provided prior to the visit.
* Your EV will wish to speak to centre management staff, centre coordinators, any staff involved in the quality procedures within the centre, tutors, assessors and candidates, therefore please make sure they are notified of the visit, its purpose and ensure their availability on the day as necessary whether in person or online.
* For remote visits - Once the EV has verified the candidate work, they will arrange either a phone call or video chat with the counselling lead/team.
* Review minimum standards of delivery and internal assessment to maintain the ongoing integrity and verification of CPCAB regulated qualifications.
* Check for any actions from the previous visit and review if these have been addressed.
* Where necessary, draft an action plan, in consultation with you, designed to address any identified concerns.
* Confirm candidate registrations, RPL and procedures for reasonable adjustments and special consideration for External and Internal Assessments?
* Confirm that you are fully aware of all External Assessment (EA) requirements for each qualification.
* Review your training programme.
* Ensure internal assessment is appropriate, consistent, safe, ethical and fair and monitored across centres.
* Confirm your tutors/assessors are marking to the level and depth required for the qualifications they are teaching.
* Review a sample of candidate portfolios. Your EV will select candidates’ names they wish to review – [please see above](#Samples) .
* To meet with a registered candidate group. This happens without tutor presence but your EV will feedback to you a review of this meeting. For online visits a video link will be requested. If for any reasons a candidate group is not available for both types of visit, candidate evaluations will need to be completed from the group the EV would have selected to meet. Please see [appendix 1](#Appendix_1) for a blank proforma you may wish to use.
* Ensure the internal quality assurance processes (IQA) in place are effective, robust and consistently applied for internal moderation and internal verification.
* Ensure you have in place adequate and up-to-date management systems, policies and processes relevant to qualifications.
* Provide a robust audit trail of External Verification activities.
* Check there are adequate resources and systems of support in place, including external assessment arrangements.

**External Verifier Observations of candidate portfolios**

During the visit your EV will review the selected sample of portfolios which cover a range of competence. The EV will be looking at:

* the tutor’s assessment of the evidence produced for this level
* the tutor’s feedback to the candidates
* whether or not the portfolio is complete

1. **Annual Practicing Certificate (APC)**

When you gain centre recognition with us you receive initial approval to run for one year. If the EV report at the end of the year is satisfactory and you have declared Annual Centre Declaration of Compliance,[[1]](#footnote-2) on the CPCAB portal you receive an Annual Practising Certificate (APC) for the following year. However, if the EV report identifies major problems the APC can be withheld until these problems have been rectified. We will offer appropriate support.

1. **The External Verification report**

After your External Verification visit, your EV will complete an External Verification report which will outline key points identified in the visit, provide feedback on good practice identified and highlight any actions resulting from the visit. It will also provide comments on any previous action points where applicable.

This report is designed to be a supportive document for centres to give constructive feedback on how any improvements can be made but also acknowledging and celebrating good practice.

The report is split into sections that capture evidence to address all the required standards identified by CPCAB. You will notice that there are some questions in each section of the report that are in **bold**; these questions are important as they provide evidence of compliance to CPCAB’s regulators.[[2]](#footnote-3) However, all sections will be reviewed at by your EV.

**Across the following pages is an example of the EV Report with some additional notes that explain what the EV will be looking at. Please read this in detail as it will provide useful guidance in preparing for some of the discussions that will take place between you and your EV.**

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| **3.1 Candidate registration** |
| 1. **Are all groups registered?**
2. **Is/are the tutor(s) registered to the group the one(s) teaching the group?**
3. **Has the centre informed CPCAB of any tutor changes?**
4. **What is the primary delivery style of qualifications at the centre (e.g. in-person/online/blended)?**
5. **Are centre staff implementing the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) process and were records available?**
6. Are there any problems with the registration process?
 | **Notes for centres (guidance only)** |
| 1. You have 6 weeks to register your group(s), please ensure the portal is regularly updated.
2. Please ensure that the tutors named on the portal are the ones actually teaching; update the portal when tutors have changed.
3. If you need to make any changes please ensure that you contact our EA department who can make these changes for you exams@cpcab.co.uk. This is incredibly important so there are no delays with any EA submissions and to also ensure the correct tutors receive the relevant documentation.
4. If you are teaching some or all lessons online, you must be approved for this, please complete the application for online delivery [here](https://www.cpcab.co.uk/public_docs/application-for-centre-recognition) (appendix 2).
5. Check the CPCAB Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) document located [here](https://www.cpcab.co.uk/public_docs/recognition-of-prior-learning-rpl-policy) for further information.
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| **3.2 External Assessment (where applicable)** |
| 1. **Are centre staff and candidates aware of External Assessment requirements for each qualification?**
2. **Can centre staff involved in External Assessment confirm that they are fully aware of their role in the facilitation and the authentication process for each qualification?**
3. **Do centre staff understand the procedures for reasonable adjustments and special consideration?**
4. Does the centre require any support with this process?
5. How are candidates prepared for External Assessment?
6. Have there been any problems with External Assessment?
7. Do centres have appropriate arrangements in place to support any resit candidates?
 | **Notes for centres (guidance only)** |
| 1. It is important that both staff and candidates have been briefed on what will happen with the External Assessment. For example, the EA dates (or ‘submission window’), the format (*reflective review paper* or *structured case review)*, and mock external assessments. This is all detailed in the External Assessment Guides which can be found on the CPCAB website. The submission window dates are provided on the CPCAB website [here](https://www.cpcab.co.uk/centres/external-assessment-dates).
2. Staff involved in the EA process need to carefully read the sections entitled *Checking Authenticity* and *Submission Process of External Assessment* in the EA guide for their qualification(s). Please check the CPCAB website under each qualification for the relevant EA guide <https://www.cpcab.co.uk/qualifications/>

Please ensure that tutors signing the candidate submission can confirm that they know, to the best of their professional knowledge and based on their ongoing assessment of the candidate, it is the candidate’s own work. With current developments in artificial intelligence (AI) such as ChatGPT for example, this is becoming more important.1. Further details can be found in the CPCAB Application of Reasonable Adjustments & Special Consideration Policy, found [here](https://www.cpcab.co.uk/public_docs/application-of-reasonable-adjustments-and-special). Applications for Reasonable adjustments can be done using form CR3 [here](https://www.cpcab.co.uk/public_docs/cr3_application_for_reasonable_adjustments_form) and for special consideration via form CR3a [here](https://www.cpcab.co.uk/public_docs/cr3b_application_for_special_consideration_form). All applications for Reasonable Adjustments must be made up to 8 weeks prior to the External Assessment and must match the candidate’s usual ways of working and reflect any adjustments made to Internal Assessment.
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| **3.3 Centre training programme(s)** |
| 1. **Is there a candidate handbook available for each qualification?**
2. **Are tutors and candidates aware of all the qualification(s) requirements (e.g. client hours, group training supervision, personal therapy)?**
3. **Are teaching hours meeting the required GLH of the qualification(s),** **whether in-person, blended or online?**
4. **Are centre staff and tutors who are working in an online/blended format aware of, and working within, CPCABs Quality Framework for Online Delivery?**
5. Is there an up-to-date scheme of work for each qualification?
6. How are the appropriateness of placements being monitored?
* Are tutors and candidates aware of the portfolio and evidence requirements?
* What arrangements are in place to support candidates (tutorials, learning support)?
* What systems are in place to record and monitor candidate attendance?
 | **Notes for centres (guidance only)** |
| 1. A candidate handbook for each qualification should include details such as an overview of the qualification, the qualification structure, what coursework will be expected from them and how they will be assessed through Internal and External processes.
2. This would be outlined in the candidate handbook, including Additional Qualification requirements, such as the number of client hours required, counselling clinical supervision, group training supervision, personal therapy etc.
3. Tutors and centre staff should understand the difference between GLH (Guided Learning Hours) and TQT (Total Qualification Time) and what each constitutes. GLH is the actual number of hours where a tutor or guest speaker is present, and this will need to be confirmed with the EV. If there has been a pause in teaching resulting in any shortfall, you will need to provide a rationale to CPCAB for how the GLH will eventually be achieved.
4. If any teaching hours are delivered online (as approved with CPCAB), centre staff will need to be aware of and working according to the *CPCAB’s Quality Framework for Online Delivery*. Further details are also available in the application for online delivery located [here](https://www.cpcab.co.uk/public_docs/cpcab-application-form-for-online-delivery).
5. As a tutor, your centre should be providing an up-to-date scheme of work, which might include an outline of what will be covered, and in which lessons, together with references to learning outcomes for each lesson and how candidates will be assessed. There might also be a list of resources and activities to be used in the lessons, as well as guidance on the most appropriate teaching methods for covering certain areas.
6. The EV may ask how you monitor student placements and if there are any issues, how these might be resolved between the student, the agency and the centre (for example, the use of a 3-way agreement is considered best practice).
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| **3.4 Internal Assessment**  |
| 1. **Have tutors met CPCAB standardisation requirements?**
2. **Are tutors and candidates aware of and working at the minimum assessment requirements for each qualification?**
3. **Are tutors assessing to the right level for each qualification?**
4. **Do candidate portfolios meet the minimum assessment requirements appropriate for each regulated qualification and level?**
5. **Are assessments safe, ethical and fair? If not, how could they be developed?**
* Does evidence provided for external verification sample *all* registered tutors from the centre and each qualification level sought (Registered tutors only)?
* Do tutors and candidates understand the process of internal assessment? Are there any concerns?
* What tools are being used to carry out and record assessments (e.g. CAS sheets, feedback sheets, group record) and how effective are these?
* Please note observations of:
	1. organisation/presentation of portfolios;
	2. quality and range of candidate evidence;
	3. quality of tutor assessment and feedback;
	4. particular courses or groups.
* Are Candidate Learning Records (CLRs) complete, and where necessary, completion statements signed?
* Have tutors made additional assessment arrangements to ensure face-to-face competency for trainees who have accrued 100% of their placement through online work (where applicable)?
 | **Notes for centres (guidance only)** |
| 1. Standardisation of tutors is mandatory and forms part of your centre application and annual declaration of compliance. Please see our terms and conditions for centres and tutors. For those tutors who are not required to attend in a particular year, your EV will ask to see evidence that cascade training has taken place by an attending tutor. We have a proforma you may wish to use to capture this evidence on our website available [here](https://www.cpcab.co.uk/public_docs/cpcab-tutor-standardisation-cascade-training-19-20).
2. As part of the visit, the EV will be checking that both tutors and their candidates are working at the minimum level appropriate for each qualification.
3. The assessing will also need to be at the appropriate level for the qualification being taught. Internal Quality Assurance practices will be looked at by the EV to ensure activities are taking place to ensure consistency and standardisation across tutors where applicable.
4. This will include checking that the minimum requirements are being met. For example are appropriate learning journals being submitted, is tutor & peer observation feedback being given to candidates. They will check if these are supported with clear written feedback that is specific, supportive and also helping to develop the candidates. This could be by using a method such as the CPCAB Criteria Assessment Sheet (CAS) - the CAS proforma is available [here](https://www.cpcab.co.uk/public_docs/criteria_assessment_sheet). They will also be checking how the learning outcomes, measured via the assessment criteria, are being tracked by candidates & tutors.
5. It is very important that all assessments given are safe, ethical and fair, across all qualifications and groups. If the EV has any concerns, they will discuss this with you, to agree any areas that need developing.
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| **3.5 For ICSK-L2 only** |
| 1. **Do portfolios reflect that candidates are working to the correct level for this qualification and meeting minimum assessment requirements?**
2. **Is there evidence of internal moderation records for each ICSK-L2 group?**
* Is there an up-to-date scheme of work for ICSK-L2?
* Are tutors and candidates aware of all qualification requirements?
* Were ICSK-L2 portfolios available to sample?
* Do the ICSK-L2 portfolios meet the qualification requirements?
* If ICSK-L2 portfolios have not been seen – please comment.
 | **Notes for centres (guidance only)** |
| 1. A sample must be retained for each group for the EV to review at their visit.
2. **Archiving requirements** - Centres are responsible for ensuring that they retain relevant material to comply with the need for evidence of internal assessment decisions. Centres who offer ICSK-L2 should retain a sample of candidate portfolios for at least 3 years. The suggested sample is 20% or a minimum of 3 portfolios from each group” (ICSK-L2 Tutor Guide).
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| **3.6 Discussion with candidate group** |
| Please make reference to:1. Which group(s) were met and is/are the group(s) registered with CPCAB?
2. The main points discussed e.g. theoretical modality, understanding of diversity, placement experience.
3. The quality of the learning experience to date.
4. Any issues requiring further action or discussion.
 | **Notes for centres (guidance only)** |
| 1. As previously mentioned in 3.1 above, it’s important that the group the EV meets is already registered with CPCAB.
2. Although the tutor will be asked to leave the discussion, any areas of concern raised by the candidates will be discussed with centre staff afterwards and be recorded in the EV report.
3. The EV will be keen to gain a sense of the overall candidate experience on the course so far, the so called “learner voice”, which although not a regulated requirement, is a very important aspect of the visit.
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| **3.7 Internal Moderation (IM) and Internal Verification/Internal Quality Assurances (IV) (IQA)** |
| 1. **Who is responsible for Internal Moderation and how is it carried out and recorded?**
2. **Who is responsible for Internal Verification/IQA and how is it carried out and recorded?**
3. **Are centres following CPCAB requirements for IM/IV and the frequencies of this for each qualification and tutor/assessor?**
4. **Is there evidence of sampling in the Internal Moderation process e.g. sampling plan/sampling grid**
* How are centres addressing inconsistencies if they occur?
* Any other issues/observations?
 | **Notes for centres (guidance only)** |
| 1. The person with overall responsibility for Internal Moderation may or may not be the same as the person responsible for Internal Verification. The document Guide to Internal Moderation and Verification for Centres, available [here](https://www.cpcab.co.uk/public_docs/guide_to_internal_moderation_verification), includes example proformas for an IM sampling grid and moderation report. The Internal Moderator is expected to have recognised teaching/assessment qualifications or their equivalent and needs to be qualified in the subject area they are internally moderating.
2. The EV will want to know who is also responsible for Internal Verification/Internal Quality Assurance and how this is done within the centre. Again, the Guide to Internal Moderation and Verification for Centres is available to help.
3. The frequency of IM and IV is detailed in the guide, depending on the qualification. Usually Internal Verification should take place annually, for each qualification. These activities can take a variety of forms and CPCAB do not prescribe how many need to take place, nor what the activities are, but there must be evidence that robust Internal Verification has happened.

For the autumn visit, the EV won’t necessarily be expecting to see full IM/IV reports, just that these are planned in for the year (usually these IQA activities take place twice a year). For the summer visit, we would be expecting to see more detailed IQA reports, such as IM sampling grids, IM reports and IV checklists. |

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| **3.8 Centre management** |
| 1. **Are candidates aware of the centre appeals and complaints procedures?**
2. **Are there any current appeals or complaints?**
3. **Have there been any issues with malpractice/maladministration?**
4. **Have any changes been made to centre policies since they were last submitted to CPCAB?**
5. **How are candidate concerns addressed between the placement, supervisor and centre?**
6. Was candidate work, tutor assessment, Internal Quality Assurance (IQA) records and course documentation easily accessible for quality assurance purposes, e.g. an e-portfolio or intranet system if delivering online?
* If an online visit, how was the sample of work accessed? What platform was used to provide the samples e.g. email, WeTransfer, Teams etc., and were there any issues?
* Have any candidates left the course – why? What follow up arrangements have been made by the centre?
* When do team meetings take place and where are meetings/action plans recorded? Are these kept up to date?
* What induction procedures are in place for new tutors?
* What ongoing training and Continuous Professional Development (CPD) has been undertaken by tutors. How is this recorded?
* What supervisory and support arrangements are in place for the tutor team?
* Are resources, accommodation and/or online platforms appropriate?
* Are retention and achievement within expected parameters?
* How is progression data collected and have there been any issues around progressions?
 | **Notes for centres (guidance only)** |
| 1. We encourage centres to ensure that candidates have access to a copy of the centre complaints and appeals policies and that these are easily accessible.
2. You EV will ask if there are any current appeals or complaints at the centre, so it’s important to be open and transparent about this. It is important that CPCAB are advised to enable us to provide support and review should this be escalated.

The EV is not there to get involved with complaints and appeals and does not have a role with centre appeals or complaints processes.1. Please see our policy for [Malpractice/Maladministration](https://www.cpcab.co.uk/public_docs/malpractice_maladministration)  so you are fully aware of the difference.
2. This might include changes to the appeals and complaints procedures. Anything that might be relevant to the annual declaration. Anything that might affect candidates and an updated copy will need to be submitted to CPCAB for approval.
3. Your EV might discuss this with you, making reference to the 3 or 4-way agreement, that should be signed by the candidate, agency, college tutor and agency supervisor. Perhaps think about how previous concerns raised by candidates were resolved.
4. It’s important that candidate work, tutor assessment, Internal Quality Assurance (IQA) records and course documentation are easily accessible to the EV. If your centre is using an e-portfolio system, can you provide the necessary assistance to the EV?
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| **3.9 For BACP APQ only** |
| 1. Has there been any changes to the tutor team since the start of the course?
2. Are all tutors current BACP members?

Are candidates successfully applying for BACP Student membership/maintaining membership throughout the qualification?1. Does the centre have a record of all students BACP membership numbers?
2. Are centres delivering the BACP APQ offering a blended delivery?
3. Are centres supporting candidates to engage in blended placements? Have there been any challenges?
4. How are centres able to monitor candidates achieving the required BACP placement supervision ratio?
5. How are tutors embedding the BACP ethical framework and knowledge of the BACP OPT Core competencies within the teaching and learning, as highlighted by the additional guidance?

Are centres and candidates gaining added value from the BACP APQ aspect to the qualification?1. Are centre staff and candidates aware of the BACP Certificate of Proficiency (CoP) requirements, and aware of how to seek guidance from BACP on undertaking this?
2. Do centres understand their role in submitting final CoP results on the CPCAB portal?
 | **Notes for centres (guidance only)** |
| 1. The EV will want to know if any new tutors have replaced those indicated at registration and it is important CPCAB are kept up to date with any changes throughout the course.
2. It is important to ensure that current and replacement tutors meet the qualification requirements regarding BACP membership.
3. The qualification requires all students to be members of BACP. It is good practice for centres to keep records.
4. There is a requirement for some online delivery for this qualification, but no minimum number of GLH for online delivery. As such, we are interested to understand how centres are interpreting this requirement and to ensure that arrangements are within the spirit of the qualification (i.e., to facilitate competencies in online and phone counselling)
5. The qualification requires candidates to have a blended (hybrid) placement which includes both in-person and online counselling. This might be provided in one or more placement agency. We are interested to understand what challenges this might present. For example, sourcing suitable agencies, managing candidate’s placement workloads etc.
6. Centres should be aware of the BACP placement supervision ratio. The EV will want to know that the centre is aware of this ratio and understand how this is being monitored at the centre.
7. The EV will want to see examples of candidates’ work demonstrating where tutors have been teaching the BACP Ethical Framework and OPT Core competencies. The EV could also discuss with tutors how they embed these frameworks.
8. The person facilitating the BACP CoP may not be the course tutor/s. The EV will want to refer to the CoP guidance document and be satisfied that the centre staff understand CoP processes for booking, including ensuring that BACP are given notice of numbers as requested.
9. The EV will want to ensure that centre staff understand the processes for submitting CoP results, which have been updated from 23-24.
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| **3.10 Other issues** |
| * Are there any other important issues that need recording or addressing by the centre (e.g. tutor illness, problems in tutor team, group dynamics, funding issues, individual student issues, financial resources etc)?
* Was adequate time made available for the visit?
 | **Notes for centres (guidance only)** |
| Please raise any other issues or concerns you might have with your EV, who is there to help you. |

**APPENDIX 1**

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| **Candidate Feedback Form** |

Dear Candidate,

We hope you have enjoyed your training. It would help us if you could spare a few minutes to complete this form. You can include your name and centre details if you like or keep your feedback confidential. Your comments will help us to continue to introduce improvements to our qualifications.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of the qualification |  |
| Date you started |  |
| Date your course will finish |  |
| Today’s date |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. In the questions below, please tick the box that best matches your experience of the qualification. | Definitely agree | Slightly agree | Not sure | Slightly disagree | Definitely disagree | Doesn't apply |
| I found the course content fitted with the qualification |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I found the course content fitted with the aims, objectives and purpose of the qualification |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I found the learning outcomes and assessment criteria clear and understandable |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I found the course was long enough for me to meet all the requirements |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I found the assessment arrangements enabled me to demonstrate my knowledge, understanding and skills |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I found that the course recognised my difference and diversity and met my individual learning needs |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I found this course appropriate for progressing to the next level of training/learning |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I have enjoyed my study |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Any other comments about the qualification |

In questions 2 and 3, please tick all boxes that apply to you.

2. What was your motivation for undertaking this qualification?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Please tick all that apply | ✓ |
| To learn knowledge and skills for an existing job or role |  |
| To gain employment |  |
| To progress to a higher level of training or learning |  |
| As part of a route to becoming a professional counsellor |  |
| Change of career or professional direction |  |
| As part of continuing professional development |  |

3. Do you intend to use your qualification in a particular field of employment?

|  |
| --- |
| Please tick all that apply |
| Health |  | Public sector |  |
| Care |  | Private sector |  |
| Industry |  | Voluntary sector |  |
| Other (please give details) |

4. If there is anything else you’d like to add, please put your comments here (you can use another sheet of paper if you like)

|  |
| --- |
| General comments |

5. You don’t have to fill in these boxes but if you do, we won’t reveal your identity to anyone outside of the qualifications review team.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Your name |  |
| Name of your centre |  |

Thank you for your help. Please give this form back to your tutor, who will send it to CPCAB.

1. See [Tutor Guides](https://www.cpcab.co.uk/qualifications/) for further information [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Please note that all EV reports are reviewed by CPCAB’s Standards team before being sent to your centre. If there are any areas of concern or we feel we can offer additional support we will ask the appropriate team at Head Office to make contact with you or alternatively we will add an additional note to your report if there are any actions that need immediate attention. Your EV will not add anything into the report that they have not verbally spoken to you about during their visit. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)