



Further education

Self-reflection questions to support teachers in further education to develop learners' numeracy skills in a vocational context

- Do all learners undertake an initial and detailed diagnostic assessment of their numeracy skills and understand their results?
- Are diagnostic assessment outcomes used effectively to agree a carefully targeted individual numeracy skills development plan for each learner?
- Is individual progress against numeracy skills improvement targets reviewed and evaluated periodically?
- Are all teaching staff aware of individual learners' current numeracy skills and their targeted areas for development?
- Is individual or small group support made available to learners to support their numeracy skills development?
- Have teaching staff undertaken appropriate professional development activities to ensure that they have the necessary skills to support and develop learners' numeracy skills?
- Are teachers encouraged to share resources and examples of effective practice in developing learners' numeracy skills?
- Are contextualised learning activities and materials used wherever possible?
- Do all learners understand the importance and benefit of having sound numeracy skills, both in a vocational context and for use in everyday life?
- How well do teachers in vocational areas help learners to develop and practise their numeracy skills in the vocational context of their learning programme? For example:
 - understanding and using different units of measurement
 - undertaking calculations including addition, subtraction, division, multiplication, percentages, fractions, positive and negative numbers where appropriate
 - using and interpreting tables, graphs, charts and diagrams
 - undertaking measurements such as length, distance, height and weight
 - calculating materials requirements such as in relation to area dimensions and volumes
 - using ratios for mixing ingredients and scaling these up/down as required
 - using time measurements such as when calculating required times for jobs, scheduling appointments or when feeding/issuing medication
 - using money values and calculations such as when making transactions, applying discounts, billing or budgeting