
POLICY

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL) POLICY 2016-2019

Polisi Cydnabyddiaeth o Ddysgu Blaenorol (CDB) 2016-2019

Scope and Purpose

- 1.1 Pembrokeshire College is committed, where appropriate, to the award of credit towards nationally and internationally recognised qualifications based on evidence of an individual's past experiences and/or achievements; and where permitted by the qualification's awarding body.
 - 1.2 The process is available across all curriculum areas.
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1 KEY PRINCIPLES

In the context of this document there are six key principles regarding RPL at Pembrokeshire College:

1.1 Definitions

1.1.1 Recognition of Prior learning (RPL) is a method of assessment (leading to the award of a qualification) that considers whether the learner can demonstrate that they can meet the assessment requirements for a unit through knowledge, understanding, skills or competence they already possess and do not need to develop through a course of learning.

1.1.2 RPL enables recognition of achievement from a range of activities using an appropriate assessment methodology. Provided that the assessment requirements of a given unit or qualification have been met, the use of RPL is acceptable for accrediting a unit, units or a whole qualification.

1.2 Implementation

1.2.1 Formal action planning and tracking processes must ensure that learners who are identified as having appropriate experience are aware of the RPL process.

1.2.2 Learners are given the necessary guidance and support to enable them to achieve their target qualification in the optimum time.

1.3 Management

1.3.1 College assessors based within the Work Based Learning and Further Education Faculties provide information and guidance to learners on the RPL process. Assessors and Verifiers are responsible for identifying learners' RPL within each curriculum area and work in compliance with Joint Awarding Bodies' Standards to ensure a quality RPL guidance and support service at programme level.

1.3.2 All College staff involved in the assessment of RPL evidence work towards standards which cover the assessment and internal verification of diverse evidence. Evidence obtained through the RPL process must be assessed, to the same rigorous quality as evidence obtained through any other process.

1.3.3 It remains the role of assessors and quality assurance staff to ensure that learning outcomes are only deemed to have been met where evidence is:

- Valid
- Authentic
- Sufficient
- Reliable

1.3.4 The College is an approved assessment centre for qualifications which enable assessors to achieve the necessary awards to assess RPL evidence. The college will ensure that RPL is carried out by designated staff with relevant levels of expertise to meet the requirements of the assessment strategy / guidance for the qualification concerned.

1.4 Curriculum

1.4.1 The move towards more flexible access and curriculum provision will enhance the implementation of RPL.

1.4.2 Learners are invited to demonstrate their competence either by compiling a portfolio of evidence, or by pursuing a process of accelerated assessment, (or combination of both).

1.4.3 Individual Assessment/Action Plans identify the preferred route for each candidate. Top-up training is agreed as appropriate.

1.5 Entitlement

1.5.1 All learners receive equal entitlement to RPL regardless of ability, age, sex or ethnic culture. However, it is acknowledged that the RPL route to gaining a qualification may be more appropriate for the mature learner.

1.6 Monitoring and Evaluation

1.6.1 With regard to an individual learners' RPL progress, this will be carried out via the internal and external verification/moderation processes already in place.

1.6.2 The process of RPL will be subject to the same quality assurance requirements as any other assessment method; this will be carried out by Assessors, Internal Quality Assurers and programme co-ordinators.

2 COMPLIANCE

- 2.1** Assessors and verifiers must ensure that they adhere to the relevant awarding body policies and procedures that define the RPL process for the award which is subject to RPL.
- 2.2** Where a learner is interested in accreditation of their previous learning they must be aware of the:
- process of claiming achievement by using RPL.
 - sources of support and guidance available to them.
 - timelines, appeals procedures and any fees involved.

3 THE WELSH LANGUAGE

- 3.1** The Corporation is committed to the promotion of the Welsh Language and will endeavour to address and support the needs of the Welsh speakers in accordance with the College's Welsh Language Scheme.

Yr Iaith Gymraeg

Mae'r Gorfforaeth yn ymrwymedig i hyrwyddo'r iaith Gymraeg a bydd yn ymdrechu i ddelio ag anghenion siaradwyr Cymraeg â'u cefnogi yn unol â Chynllun Iaith Gymraeg y Coleg.

4 DOCUMENT CONTROL

Version	Description	Date	Creator	Reviewer	Authoriser	Document Custodian
1	First Issue	Aug 16	P.Robinson	B.Walters	S.Lusher	D. Meddings
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