

Guidance for Providers on Recording Progression Pathways on the Individualised Learner Record

Purpose

This note is for those providers endorsed to implement the first Progression Pathways in 2007/08. It sets out how providers will need to record data in the Individualised Learner Record (ILR) during 2007/08.

Background

The LSC and the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA) have a ministerial remit to develop a more focussed and strategic approach to Entry Level and Level 1 for learners aged 14 and over in order to raise participation and achievement amongst learners at these levels and help them to progress through work and life. This programme of work is known as the Foundation Learning Tier (FLT) and is for England only.

Progression Pathways

Progression Pathways will consist of a coherent offer of units and qualifications drawn from Entry Level and Level 1 of the Qualification and Credit Framework (QCF), supported by robust initial assessment and ongoing review, delivered through a coherent and personalised learning programme. Units and qualifications available within Progression Pathways will encompass vocational, functional and personal and social development skills.

Progression Pathways identified as priorities for development include progression:

- to Level 2, so that a learner is ready to access a full Level 2 on completing the pathway
- to apprenticeships (i.e. a pre-apprenticeship route)
- for 14-19 year olds from Entry Level to Level 1 Diplomas, GCSEs or other further study
- to independent living (and where appropriate providing a platform for employability or supported employment).

Progression Pathways will be subject to a 'validation' mechanism which will consist of three elements:

- Provider Requirements and LSC endorsement process – will confirm that providers have met the Provider Requirements and can deliver Progression Pathways. Provider self assessment using existing evidence, together with LSC evaluation of existing data, will be used to assess capacity, appropriateness of provision and readiness to implement the Pathways.
- Programme content/achievement sets – accredited units and qualifications (achievement sets) which are combined into a coherent programme within an agreed specification

- Principles for the delivery of Entry and Level 1 Progression Pathways – ensuring that Progression Pathways can be built on and delivered through high-quality, coherent and flexible learning programmes that take account of a wide range of learner needs and focus on personalised learning.

Phased Implementation of Progression Pathways

Phase one implementation of Progression Pathways will begin from September 2007 with some providers that were involved in the FLT trials (2006/07).

During 2007/08, providers not involved in phase one will be reviewing their provision at Entry Level and Level 1 in preparation for the wider scale introduction of Progression Pathways from August 2008.

Funding

The LSC will fund learners on Progression Pathways where the provider has been endorsed to deliver Progression Pathways. Funding for learners must have been agreed with the LSC regional or local partnership team.

There is no new funding methodology for funding Progression Pathways in 2007/08 as outlined in the [Funding Guidance for Further Education \(2007/08\)](#)¹ and the Funding Guidance for Work Based Learning (2007/08).

Identification of Progression Pathways

Qualifications and units that form part of a Progression Pathway will be identified on QCA's [National Database of Accreditation Qualifications](#) as they become available. Further details will be provided in autumn 2007.

Data Requirements

Who is this relevant to?

Providers endorsed to implement the first Progression Pathways in 2007/08 who receive funding through the Further Education, Work Based Learning and Adult and Community Funding (excluding Personal and Community Development Learning) routes for Progression Pathways.

What will the data be used for?

It is important that data on Progression Pathways is completed as this data will be used to:

- identify learners undertaking Progression Pathways
- monitor the take up of Progression Pathways and the different types
- inform progress reports to the Minister.

¹ Please see paragraph 60-62, 88, 97, 266-270, 288

Relevant fields in the ILR

The ILR documents for 2007/08 are available on the LSC website at:
www.lsc.gov.uk/Providers/Data/Datacollection/ILR/.

Field A46 *National Learning Aim Monitoring* - includes a new valid entry for Progression Pathways. This should be used where a learning aim is part of a validated Progression Pathway. This field must be completed accurately to ensure that all learners that are undertaking a Progression Pathway can be identified. The new valid entry is:

Valid entry: 81 – Progression Pathways

Use this code where the learning aims is a validated Progression Pathways. In 2007/08 only providers that were 'live' FLT trial sites in 2006/07 will be delivering a Progression Pathway and therefore using this valid entry.

Please note that QCF valid entries in Field A46 do NOT need to be used in addition to valid entry 81.

Unique Learner Numbers

All learners undertaking a Progression Pathway or QCF provision must have a unique learner number (ULN) generated by MIAP's prototype Learner Registration Service. This should be recorded in the learners ILR record in field L45. Separate guidance is available on working with the Learner Registration Service and ULNs.