

Support Offer for Apprenticeship Providers

Overview

The reforms to assessment and Foundation Apprenticeships now mean providers have an expanded role in apprenticeship assessment. You'll be preparing apprentices for regulated assessments, delivering elements set by awarding organisations (AOs), and working with employers to validate behaviours.

These changes will require you to think differently about your curriculum design, your team's capability, assessment literacy, and quality assurance processes. As national leaders in technical education and assessment reform, SDN can work alongside you to rethink delivery, upskill your staff, and make sure your apprenticeship offer is assessment-ready and fully aligned with current expectations.

How SDN can support you

Diagnostic and strategic planning

We'll sit down with your SLT, curriculum and quality leads to:

- Map your provision and responsibilities against new assessment requirements
- Carry out a gap analysis of curriculum design, assessment literacy and delivery infrastructure
- Review how you're engaging employers in delivery and behaviour validation

What you'll get: a clear roadmap for curriculum reform, workforce development, and readiness to deliver apprenticeships under the new model.

Curriculum re-design and assessment integration

We'll work with you to:

- Co-design curriculum models that fully integrate knowledge, skills and mapped KSBs
- Build learning plans, schemes of work, and structured employer involvement
- Develop internal handbooks and process documents to support AO-set assessment delivery
- Shape guidance so apprentices are prepared for assessment, without crossing delivery boundaries
- Make sure employer involvement is meaningful, consistent and manageable
- Run CPD sessions for your curriculum and delivery teams to give them confidence in the new model

Workforce development and delivery training

We'll upskill your trainers, IQAs, assessors and delivery managers through bespoke CPD on:

- New assessment models
- Internal QA aligned with external assessment requirements
- Supporting apprentices through assessment

We also run practical workshops on:

- Understanding assessment principles in practice
- Standardisation and consistent delivery
- Evidence-based teaching and learning

You'll also get access to templates, tools and case studies you can use straight away

Internal quality assurance (IQA) and compliance support

We'll help you:

- Design or refine IQA strategies in line with AO expectations
- Clarify your responsibilities when deploying AO-set assessments
- Prepare for external assurance and monitoring
- Strengthen delivery through smart data capture, sampling, and feedback

Whether you're updating your provision for a single apprenticeship standard or reshaping your whole apprenticeship offer, we'll partner with you to build confident teams, assessment-ready curricula, and high-quality delivery – so you and your apprentices are set up for success.