

A. The NQSW experience is central to the ASYE. Arrangements are in place to ensure that:

ASYE: National evaluation criteria (revised 2021)

A1. Feedback is proactively sought through mechanisms such as the 360 evaluation tool. NQSWs are active participants, rather than passive recipients.

A2. NQSWs, along with other stakeholders (i.e. ASYE supervisors/assessors and people who draw on care and support and their carers) are able to make a meaningful contribution to ASYE quality assurance and continuous improvement.

A3. NQSWs' wellbeing is prioritised from the beginning of the ASYE and NQSWs are made aware of the support structures available to them within the organisation from the outset and how to access this support, such as buddying and peer support networks.

A4. Equality, diversity and inclusion are central to the ASYE programme, ensuring that all NQSWs are offered an ASYE experience which is tailored to their individual needs, including cultural and learning needs and identities.

A5. ASYE programmes have policies/procedures in place to ensure NQSWs and those supporting them practice from an anti-racist perspective.

A6. ASYE programmes have an equality and diversity framework in place to ensure NQSWs and those supporting them are not treated unfairly or discriminated against because of their background or characteristics.

A7. The organisation has mechanisms in place to gather and monitor data that is reflective of the diversity of the organisation's workforce. They take action where necessary so that employees from a diverse background are not disadvantaged.

A8. NQSWs are encouraged to engage with the national ASYE framework via the quarterly NQSW online forums.

ASYE: One step beyond the NEC (known as NEC+)

A9. A structure is in place for providing specific and impactful support for promoting the NQSWs' health and wellbeing across all stages of the programme, the shape of this support has been influenced by NQSWs.

A10. A structure of post-ASYE learning and development support is in place and is being developed based on feedback. There is evidence that it has supported the retention of NQSWs in their subsequent years in social work practice.

A11. An equality impact assessment has led to the implementation of an action plan that is improving the tailored support experience of NQSWs with protected characteristics and/or specific support needs.

B.

B12. Feedback gathered from people, including children and young people who draw on care and support, through direct observations is addressed within the assessment process.

B13. NQSWs and their supervisors/ assessors have a clear understanding of what is required of them in relation to the sufficiency and quality of evidence.

B14. Assessment outcomes are accurate, valid, robust and sufficient.

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B15. There are policies and procedures in place to make it clear what an individual NQSW can expect in terms of support and assessment and there is evidence of the review of these policies.

B16 Assessor/supervisor's practice in providing critical reflection supervision is quality assured on a regular basis and feedback provided to support their development.

B17 Assessor/supervisors are provided with protected time to undertake their ASYE responsibilities, including writing their review reports.

D. The ASYE programme is integrated with the wider organisational system

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