

Excerpt from the Specification of Apprenticeship Standards for England 2011

An Apprenticeship framework must specify that an apprentice must achieve the standards of attainment set out in the Personal Learning and Thinking Skills (PLTS) national outcomes. To achieve the six PLTS outcomes the apprentice must demonstrate the following skills:

- a. **Independent enquiry** - apprentices can process and evaluate information in their investigations, planning what to do and how to go about it. They take informed and well-reasoned decisions, recognising that others have different beliefs and attitudes;
- b. **Creative thinking** – apprentices think creatively by generating and exploring ideas, making original connections. They try different ways to tackle a problem, working with others to find imaginative solutions and outcomes that are of value;
- c. **Reflective learning** – apprentices evaluate their strengths and limitations, setting themselves realistic goals with criteria for success. They monitor their own performance and progress, inviting feedback from others and making changes to further their learning;
- d. **Team working** – apprentices work confidently with others, adapting to different contexts and taking responsibility for their own part. They listen to and take account of different views. They form collaborative relationships, resolving issues to reach agreed outcomes;
- e. **Self management** – apprentices organise themselves, showing personal responsibility, initiative, creativity and enterprise with a commitment to learning and self -improvement. They actively embrace change, responding positively to new priorities, coping with challenges and looking for opportunities;
- f. **Effective participation** – apprentices actively engage with issues that affect them and those around them. They play a full part in the life of their school, college, workplace or wider community by taking responsible action to bring improvements for others as well as themselves.

An Apprenticeship framework must specify where achievement of the PLTS is located within the Apprenticeship framework, either within a qualification or elsewhere, and how achievement is to be evidenced.