

TOOLKIT: USING COMPETITION ACTIVITY IN THE VOCATIONAL CURRICULUM

WITH LEARNERS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND)

EDUCATION & TRAINING
FOUNDATION

Welcome to this exciting new toolkit which will help you to introduce competition activity into the curriculum for your learners with SEND. Providers already using competitions report increased motivation and higher aspirations amongst their learners. The toolkit comprises an overarching guidebook along with a series of resources that will help you design and run competitions in your setting.

WHO IS THIS TOOLKIT FOR?

Are you a tutor or curriculum manager working with learners with SEND? Then this toolkit is for you. It gives you guidance on using competition activity as a way to raise aspirations, improve learners' skills, strengthen learning programmes and introduce an element of excitement into the vocational curriculum.

WHY USE THIS TOOLKIT?

This toolkit provides you with a range of guidance and tools to help you embed competition activity into your vocational curriculum in a way that enthuses both staff and learners.

It draws on the experience of providers who are already doing this successfully. Despite initial nervousness about the appropriateness of using competitions with learners with SEND and wondering how to fit competitions into an already busy curriculum, they have found it be an ultimately rewarding experience for learners and tutors alike.

Why not give it a go yourself?

CONTENTS

1. Guidebook

Start by reading this guidebook. It gives you an overarching introduction to the topic, including examples of different competition activities that can be used effectively with learners with SEND; benefits for learners, staff and employers; ways to introduce competition activity; and tips for engaging employers.

2. Developing winning ways

A [short video](#) showcasing the use of competition activity at Homefield College and explaining the positive impact on the learning of learners with SEND. You can use this video to develop your own understanding, to introduce the concept to staff teams or even to explain to parents how competition activity can benefit their young people, if you have decided to enter learners into skills competitions.

3. Sample competition briefs and marking schemes

Seven vocational skills competition briefs and marking schemes in a range of skill areas, pitched at Entry level and level 1, designed and used successfully by teachers in FE settings across England. You can use these briefs as they stand or adapt them to meet the needs of your learners, for example by adding or removing tasks to increase or decrease the degree of challenge.

4. Competition brief and marking scheme templates

A pair of templates that will help you present your competition task and marking scheme in a way that is clear to users.

5. Learner self-assessment and personalised learning plan templates

A set of templates, including guidance on their use, which will help you to:

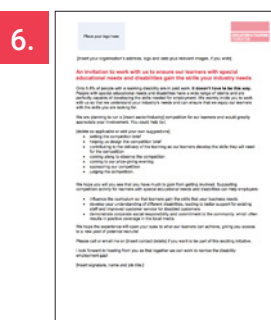
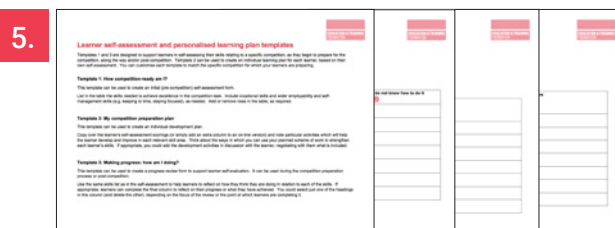
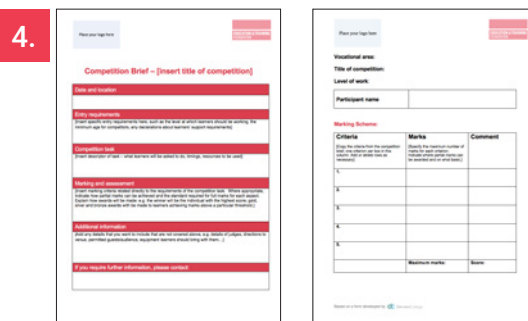
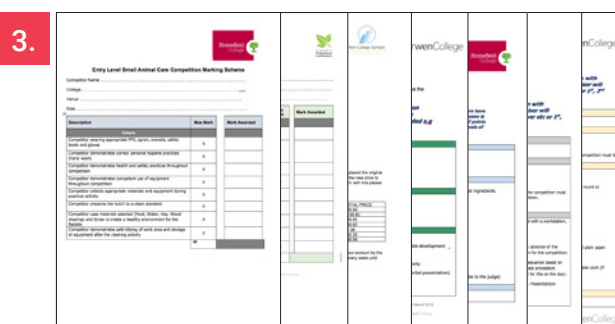
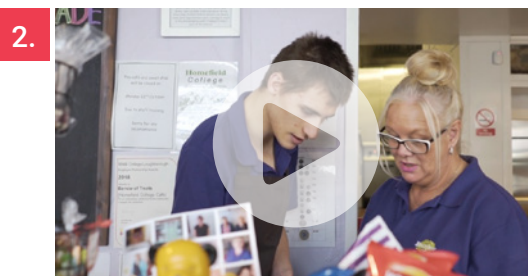
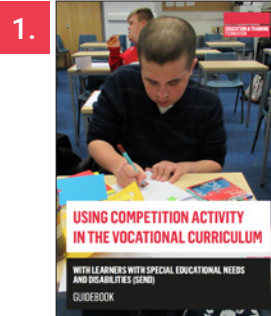
- support your learners to self-assess their skills at the start of the competition journey
- design differentiated programmes of learning to enable each learner to acquire the skills they need to succeed in the competition
- support learners to reflect on how their skills have improved as they prepare for and/or by the end of the competition

You can customise each template to match the specific competition for which your learners are preparing.

6. Invitation for employers template

A letter you can customise and use to invite employers to support you in designing and running competitions

Thanks to Derwen College, Homefield College, New College Durham and North Warwickshire and South Leicester College for their support in putting this toolkit together.



Delivered in partnership with:

