

RSPH Level 4 Diploma for Oral Health Practitioners

October 2023

Guided Learning Hours (GLH) 215 hours

Total Qualification Time (TQT) 370 hours

Ofqual Qualification Number: 603/6806/8

Description

The objective of this qualification is to provide learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills to promote the oral health and wellbeing of individuals, groups and communities. The qualification will enable learners to carry out a range of oral health preventative procedures, deliver oral health education and advice and carry out preventative treatments in accordance with community treatment plans. Successful learners will also be able to help individuals by means of brief interventions and carry out general health screening activities.

The qualification includes the theories and principles of behaviour change, health inequalities, how to conduct a motivational or enabling consultation and specialist units in oral health.

This qualification is appropriate for individuals active in a number of roles such as: Oral Health Practitioner, Community Oral Health Educator, Oral Health Champion, Oral Health Ambassador, Oral Health Improvement Lead, or for individuals already employed as dental nurses or as a registered dental care professional.

The qualification also complements the Level 4 Apprenticeship for oral health practitioners.

The qualification has been assigned a qualification purpose of D1. Confirm competence in an occupational role to the standards required

	Page
Overview	3
Unit 1 Principles of health improvement	4
Unit 2 Supporting Behaviour Change	6
Unit 3 Understand how to deliver an NHS Health Check	9
Unit 4 Legislation for oral health practitioners	11
Unit 5 Health inequalities and behaviour change	13
Unit 6 Conduct motivational consultations	16
Unit 7 Anatomy, physiology and nutrition for oral health practitioners	19
Unit 8 Understand clinical practice for oral health practitioners	21
Unit 9 Carry out oral health practitioner clinical practice	24
Unit 10 Understand preventative practice for oral health practitioners	27
Unit 11 Carry out oral health practitioner preventative practice	30
Unit 12 Understand the role of the oral health practitioner	32
Centre Guidance	35
Exemptions	35
Progression	35
Entry Requirements	35
Special Assessment Needs	35
How to apply to offer this qualification	36
Submission of completed learner assessment	36
Registration of learners	36
Recommended qualifications and experience of tutors	36
Other information	37
Contact information	37

Overview

The qualification consists of twelve mandatory units:

- Principles of health improvement
- Supporting Behaviour Change
- Understand how to deliver an NHS Health Check
- Legislation for oral health practitioners
- Health inequalities and behaviour change
- Conduct motivational consultations
- Anatomy, physiology and nutrition for oral health practitioners
- Understand clinical practice for oral health practitioners
- Carry out oral health practitioner clinical practice
- Understand preventative practice for oral health practitioners
- Carry out oral health practitioner preventative practice
- Understand the role of the oral health practitioner

Unit 1: Principles of Health Improvement

Total Unit Time: 8 hours

Guided Learning: 8 hours

Unit Level: 2

Unit Number: T/502/7120

Summary of Learning Outcomes

To achieve this unit a learner must:

- 1. Know how inequalities in health may develop and what the current policies are for addressing these, *with reference to:***
 - 1.1 An example of health inequality, its effects and possible impact on local communities
 - 1.2 The factors leading to health inequalities
 - 1.3 The policies and methodologies for reducing inequalities in health

- 2. Understand how effective communication can support health messages, *with reference to:***
 - 2.1 The communication skills that are effective in communicating health messages
 - 2.2 Barriers to communication that may affect the understanding of health messages and strategies for overcoming these
 - 2.3 The role of effective communication in the promotion of health messages

- 3. Know how to promote improvements in health and wellbeing to individuals, *with reference to:***
 - 3.1 The western scientific model and World Health Organisation definitions of the term 'health and wellbeing'
 - 3.2 Positive and negative influences on health and wellbeing
 - 3.3 An example of an approach to the promotion of health and wellbeing
 - 3.4 Resources that can be used for promoting health and wellbeing
 - 3.5 How individuals can promote health and wellbeing

- 4. Understand the impact of change on improving an individual's health and wellbeing, *with reference to:***
 - 4.1 An example of behaviour change that can improve an individual's health and wellbeing
 - 4.2 How individuals can be encouraged to change their behaviour
 - 4.3 Positive and negative influences on behaviour change

Learners successfully achieving this unit will have knowledge and understanding of facts, procedures and ideas around health improvement to complete well-defined tasks and address straightforward problems. They will be able to interpret relevant information and ideas and will be aware of a range of information that is relevant to health improvement.

Assessment

The knowledge and understanding of the learners will be assessed by a multiple-choice examination. The examination consists of 30 questions. A learner who is able to satisfy the learning outcomes will **achieve** a score of at least 20 out of 30 in the examination. Strong performance in some areas of the qualification may compensate for poorer performance in other areas.

The multiple choice examination is provided by RSPH. The duration of the examination is 45 minutes.

Unit 2: Supporting Behaviour Change

Total Unit time: 16 hours

Guided Learning: 14 hours

Unit Level: 2

Unit reference: T/616/9705

Summary of Learning Outcomes

To achieve this unit a learner must:

1. **Understand how to communicate effectively and build rapport with an individual, with reference to:**
 - 1.1 Key elements of listening skills and their application to effective communication and rapport building
 - 1.2 Ways of checking whether an individual has understood a communication and how to address any misunderstandings
 - 1.3 Ways of agreeing an agenda for a behaviour change conversation with a client
 - 1.4 The importance of respecting and acknowledging an individual's priorities in relation to their health and wellbeing and their right to refuse advice and information
 - 1.5 What should be avoided in behaviour change conversations
2. **Understand what can impact on behaviour change and how to explore these factors with an individual, with reference to:**
 - 2.1 Models of behaviour change
 - 2.2 Ways in which models of behaviour change can be used to support health behaviour change conversations
 - 2.3 Reflective and automatic motivation
 - 2.4 Barriers which can prevent behaviour change
3. **Understand how an individual can be supported in thinking about making a lifestyle or health behaviour change, with reference to:**
 - 3.1 The key components of very brief interventions or brief interventions
 - 3.2 How to present information about what you or your service can provide and in ways appropriate to an individual's needs
 - 3.3 What Self-efficacy is and how to support a client to build their self-efficacy
 - 3.4 How Importance and Confidence scales can support behaviour change conversations

4. Understand how to support an individual to plan for a behaviour change, *with reference to:*

- 4.1 The components of a SMART goal and how to ensure that the goal is effective.
- 4.2 The ways of evaluating a SMART goal
- 4.3 The methods of assessing and monitoring an individual's current health behaviour
- 4.4 Why it is important to record information and review it before and after behaviour change.

Learners successfully achieving this unit will have knowledge and understanding of facts, procedures and ideas around supporting behaviour change to complete well-defined tasks and address straightforward problems. They will be able to interpret relevant information and ideas and will be aware of a range of information that is relevant to supporting behaviour change.

Assessment

The knowledge and understanding of the learners will be assessed by a multiple-choice examination. The examination consists of 35 questions. A learner who is able to satisfy the learning outcomes will **achieve** a score of at least 24 out of 35 in the examination. Strong performance in some areas of the qualification content may compensate for poorer performance in other area.

The multiple-choice examination is provided by RSPH. The duration of the examination is 70 minutes.

Unit 3 Understand how to Deliver an NHS Health Check

Total Unit Time: 8 hours

Guided Learning: 7 hours

Unit Level: 2

Unit reference number: A/507/1006

Summary of Learning Outcomes:

To achieve this qualification a learner must:

- 1. Understand how the NHS Health Check uses key indicators to assess an individual's risk of cardiovascular disease *with reference to:***
 - 1.1 Why health checks are important.
 - 1.2 Non-modifiable risk factors for cardiovascular disease.
 - 1.3 Modifiable risk factors for cardiovascular disease.

- 2. Understand the procedures for carrying out an NHS Health Check *with reference to:***
 - 2.1 The legal, ethical and professional requirements for carrying out an NHS Health Check.
 - 2.2 How an NHS Health Check should be conducted.
 - 2.3 How an NHS Health Check can assess and interpret the risk of cardiovascular disease.
 - 2.4 How the risk of cardiovascular disease and opportunities for reducing this risk may best be communicated to clients.

Learners successfully achieving this unit will have knowledge and understanding of facts, procedures and ideas around health checks to complete well-defined tasks and address straightforward problems. They will be able to interpret relevant information and ideas and will be aware of a range of information that is relevant to carrying out health checks.

Assessment:

Attainment of the Learning Outcomes will be assessed by a multiple-choice examination including a case study. A learner who is able to satisfy the learning outcomes will be awarded a score of at least 17/25 in the examination.

The multiple choice examination is provided by RSPH. The duration of the examination is 45 minutes.

Unit 4: Professional, ethical and legal requirements for oral health practitioners

Total Unit Time: 17 hours

Guided Learning: 13 hours

Unit Level: 4

Unit reference number: Y/618/5380

Summary of Learning Outcomes:

To achieve this unit a learner must:

- 1. Understand the regulatory framework that governs the work of oral health practitioners:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 1.1 Explain the role and statutory function of the General Dental Council
 - 1.2 Determine organisational procedures for person centred care, valid consent, duty of care, diversity, equality and inclusion
 - 1.3 Determine an oral health practitioner's responsibilities under legislation relating to health and safety, equality and prescription-only medicines

- 2. Understand the requirements for data protection:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 2.1 Explain the role and function of GDPR with respect to client confidentiality
 - 2.2 Explain the need to obtain consent before providing an intervention
 - 2.3 Explain the local service data sharing protocols

- 3. Understand the requirements for safeguarding:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 3.1 State what can constitute abuse
 - 3.2 Outline the reporting procedure if abuse is identified, disclosed or suspected
 - 3.3 Outline local procedures for supporting individuals who have been abused
 - 3.4 Determine the whistle-blowing policy of the organisation
 - 3.5 Outline responsibilities with regard to safeguarding as set out in current legislation.

- 4. Know the boundaries and responsibilities of the role and that of colleagues:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 4.1 Outline the scope of practice of all members of the dental team
 - 4.2 Explain how standards of practice or codes of conduct support the practitioner in carrying out their role
 - 4.3 Explain the importance of accurate record keeping

Assessment

This unit will be assessed by centre devised assessments.

One or more of the following assessment methods may be used:

- Course work
- Written examination
- Portfolio of Evidence
- Professional Discussion

Centre-assessed learner work will be subject to moderation by RSPH Qualifications. In order to obtain a Pass for the unit, learners must be able to demonstrate that they have achieved each of the learning outcomes.

Unit 5 Health inequalities and behaviour change

Total Unit Time: 60 hours

Guided Learning: 20 hours

Unit Level: 3

Unit reference number: D/618/5381

Summary of Learning Outcomes

To achieve this unit a learner must:

1. **Understand the wider determinants of health and the impact these can have at an individual and population level:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 1.1 Explain how the wider determinants of health can have both a positive and negative impact on individuals and communities.
 - 1.2 Describe the impact of **TWO** determinants of health on health and wellbeing using **TWO** contrasting communities.
 - 1.3 Outline **TWO** local policies or strategies that aim to address the wider or social determinants of health
 - 1.4 Describe potential impacts of these **TWO** local health policies on individuals and communities.
2. **Understand inequalities in health and how these impact on health and wellbeing:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 2.1 Identify the ways in which health inequalities in the population are measured and monitored.
 - 2.2 Describe how health inequalities are recognised in **TWO** local policies.
 - 2.3 Explain the potential links between mental health, physical health and health inequalities
 - 2.4 Determine the extent to which local health inequalities impact on individuals and groups in your local area.
3. **Understand the behaviour change theories that underpin health improvement activities:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 3.1 Outline **TWO** different behaviour change models that can be applied to health and wellbeing.
 - 3.2 Explain how a named behaviour change model can be applied to an individual.
 - 3.3 Identify types of interventions used to support behaviour change.
 - 3.4 Explain with the use of examples how each of these interventions are applied in practice.
4. **Understand the principles of behaviour change techniques:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 4.1 Explain the fundamental principles of three different behaviour change techniques.

- 4.2 State how behaviour change techniques can be used to sustain longer term behaviour change.
- 4.3 Outline how communication skills can be used to support behaviour change in an individual.
- 4.4 Explain how a practitioner's attitude, values and behaviour can impact on an individual's readiness to change.

5. Understand how motivational techniques can enhance behaviour change interventions: *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*

- 5.1 Explain the fundamental principles of motivational techniques.
- 5.2 Describe **TWO** motivational techniques that can support self-empowerment and decision making.
- 5.3 Explain how the processes of motivational interviewing can support an individual to change their behaviour.
- 5.4 Explain how effective and ineffective use of motivational techniques can impact on the behaviour change outcome.

6. Understand how to motivate individual change in group settings: *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*

- 6.1 State the criteria that can be used to decide when to use group work for behaviour change.
- 6.2 Describe the factors that would need to be taken into account to deliver a group session.
- 6.3 Explain the factors to be considered when referring someone to a group.
- 6.4 Explain the methods that would be used to engage individuals to participate in the sessions.

Assessment

This unit will be assessed by centre devised assessments.

One or more of the following assessment methods may be used:

- Course work
- Written examination
- Portfolio of Evidence
- Professional Discussion

Centre-assessed learner work will be subject to moderation by RSPH Qualifications. In order to obtain a Pass for the unit, learners must be able to demonstrate that they have achieved each of the learning outcomes.

Unit 6 Conduct motivational consultations

Total Unit Time: 60 hours

Guided Learning: 15 hours

Unit Level: 3

Unit reference number: D/617/6471

Summary of Learning Outcomes:

To achieve this unit a learner must:

1. **Carry out initial consultations with individuals:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 1.1 Establish a positive environment to enable rapport to be built
 - 1.2 Explore with the individuals their understanding of the purpose of the consultation and gain their consent.
 - 1.3 Adopt a holistic approach to the individuals' situations
 - 1.4 Follow local arrangements and procedures for an initial consultation and provide assurances with respect to confidentiality.
 - 1.5 Describe the ethical tensions that might arise when carrying out consultations

2. **Demonstrate how to support individuals to identify key priorities for their health and wellbeing:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 2.1 Determine the perception of individuals of their ability to make changes in their life
 - 2.2 Explore with the individuals the main influences on their choices, behaviours and decision making
 - 2.3 Use a person centred approach to provide information on **TWO** areas where the individuals wish to take action
 - 2.4 Support individuals to identify priorities for action or change and set SMART goals to achieve this

3. **Demonstrate how to explore with individuals their readiness and commitment to take action or make changes:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 3.1 Enable individuals to explore their readiness to make changes or take action
 - 3.2 Enhance the motivation of individuals to take greater control of aspects of their life and / or behaviours
 - 3.3 Identify the barriers and facilitators of individuals to taking action
 - 3.4 Explain how resistance to change could be overcome
 - 3.5 Agree a course of action with individuals

4. **Carry out development of client-led action plans with individuals:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 4.1 Facilitate the development of joint action plans for individuals that use SMART objectives
 - 4.2 Explain how a session could be concluded
 - 4.3 Explain how individuals could be referred to other local services that will support their action plans

5. **Carry out action plan reviews with individuals:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 5.1 Review the progress of individuals against their goals
 - 5.2 Identify with individuals any lack of progress and the reasons for this
 - 5.3 Develop with individuals an approach for resuming progress
 - 5.4 Agree a revised action plan with individuals

Assessment

This unit will be assessed by centre devised assessments.

One or more of the following assessment methods may be used:

- Course work
- Written examination
- Portfolio of Evidence
- Professional Discussion

Centre-assessed learner work will be subject to moderation by RSPH Qualifications. In order to obtain a Pass for the unit, learners must be able to demonstrate that they have achieved each of the learning outcomes.

Unit 7 Anatomy, physiology and nutrition for oral health practitioners

Total Unit Time: 40 hours

Guided Learning: 28 hours

Unit Level: 4

Unit reference number: H/618/5382

Summary of Learning Outcomes:

To achieve this unit a learner must:

- 1. Understand dental and oral anatomy and physiology and their application to patient management:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 1.1 Describe the general anatomy of the skull
 - 1.2 Describe the anatomy and development of the human dentition at different life-stages
 - 1.3 Describe the anatomy and physiology of the salivary glands
 - 1.4 Explain how dental and oral anatomy affects patient management.

- 2. Understand the effect of disease on the range of normal human structures and function:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 2.1 Describe the process of dental caries, to include the effect of the process on the structure of the tooth and the structure and composition of dental bacterial plaque.
 - 2.2 Explain how oral lesions develop and the action to be taken if oral lesions are observed
 - 2.3 Outline the stages of progression of periodontal disease

- 3. Understand the use of blood sugar levels and blood pressure as indicators of health and ill-health:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 3.1 State the normal parameters for blood pressure and blood sugar levels and their control
 - 3.2 Explain procedures for measuring the blood pressure and blood sugar levels of individuals
 - 3.3 Explain the actions to take if the blood pressure or blood sugar levels of an individual lie outside the normal range.

- 4. Understand the link between diet, nutrition and hydration with systemic and oral health:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 4.1 Explain the components of energy consumption and expenditure
 - 4.2 Explain the energy, hydration and nutrient requirements at different lifetime stages
 - 4.3 Describe the relationship between diet and disease

Assessment

This unit will be assessed by centre devised assessments.

One or more of the following assessment methods may be used:

- Course work
- Written examination
- Portfolio of Evidence
- Professional Discussion

Centre-assessed learner work will be subject to moderation by RSPH Qualifications. In order to obtain a Pass for the unit, learners must be able to demonstrate that they have achieved each of the learning outcomes.

Unit 8 Understand clinical practice for oral health practitioners

Total Unit Time: 32 hours

Guided Learning: 25 hours

Unit Level: 4

Unit reference number: K/618/5383

Summary of Learning Outcomes:

To achieve this unit a learner must:

- 1. Understand a range of procedures used by oral health practitioners in clinical practice: *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:***
 - 1.1 Explain the significance of dental bacterial plaque indices and food debris scores to the oral health of individuals.
 - 1.2 State the role of fluoride varnish in protecting oral health
 - 1.3 Explain the role and purpose of imaging techniques and taking impressions to oral health
 - 1.4 State the importance of record keeping in clinical practice

- 2. Understand the importance of the clinical environment in controlling and preventing infection: *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:***
 - 2.1 Explain the risk of infection to the patient and oral health practitioner from the environment, equipment and oral health procedures
 - 2.2 Explain procedures for managing the risk of infection from the environment
 - 2.3 Explain procedures for managing the risk of infection from the use of equipment
 - 2.4 Explain procedures for managing the risk of infection from oral health procedures

- 3. Know the role and availability of other services in the locality: *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:***
 - 3.1 Explain why patients may require the use of other services
 - 3.2 Determine the help and support that other services can provide to individuals and groups
 - 3.3 Liaise with other services to identify referral pathways for individuals and / or groups requiring support
 - 3.4 Liaise with other services to refer individuals and / or groups to them in accordance with the individual's or group's needs or in circumstances when limitations of the scope of the job role or service makes referral to other agencies and specialists appropriate.

- 4. Know how to respond effectively in the event of an emergency: *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:***
 - 4.1 State what equipment should be available to the oral health practitioner in order to be able to respond effectively in the event of an emergency

- 4.2 Describe the type of emergency that can occur, including circumstances that can lead to an emergency, signs and symptoms.
 - 4.3 Describe what immediate actions should be taken in the event of an emergency
 - 4.4 Explain what secondary and follow-up actions should be taken as the result of an emergency occurring.
5. **Understand that different patient groups have different needs: *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:***
- 5.1 Identify a variety of different patient groups that may have different needs
 - 5.2 Explain the different needs of patient groups
 - 5.3 Explain how techniques can be adapted to suit the needs of different patient groups

Assessment

This unit will be assessed by centre devised assessments.

One or more of the following assessment methods may be used:

- Course work
- Written examination
- Portfolio of Evidence
- Professional Discussion

Centre-assessed learner work will be subject to moderation by RSPH Qualifications. In order to obtain a Pass for the unit, learners must be able to demonstrate that they have achieved each of the learning outcomes.

Unit 9 Carry out oral health practitioner clinical practice

Total Unit Time: 36 hours

Guided Learning: 32 hours

Unit Level: 4

Unit reference number: M/618/5384

Summary of Learning Outcomes:

To achieve this unit a learner must:

1. **Be able to carry out planning for clinical practice sessions:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 1.1 Determine suitability of venues for clinical practice sessions
 - 1.2 Confirm presence of support staff clinical practice sessions
 - 1.3 Prepare an appointment diary to ensure all clinical practice patients are examined and treated promptly

2. **Be able to prepare clinical equipment and records for clinical practice sessions:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 2.1 Follow standard operating procedures for the preparation of equipment for clinical practice sessions
 - 2.2 Follow standard operating procedures for the retrieval of records for clinical practice sessions
 - 2.3 Follow standard operating procedures for the preparation of records for clinical practice sessions
 - 2.4 Ensure clinical equipment and records are only accessed by authorised staff

3. **Be able to carry out procedures for infection prevention and control:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 3.1 Follow standard operating procedure in the cleaning and disinfection of surfaces
 - 3.2 Use appropriate techniques to disinfect or sterilise equipment
 - 3.3 Ensure disinfected and sterilised equipment is protected from contamination until required
 - 3.4 Follow standard operating procedures for the use of personal protective equipment for the practitioner and patient
 - 3.5 Ensure different types of waste are disposed of correctly

4. **Be able to carry out oral health procedures on patients:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 4.1 Ensure patients are treated with dignity
 - 4.2 Follow standard operating procedures for working in the mouth of patients
 - 4.3 Follow standard operating procedures for taking dental bacterial plaque indices and food debris scores
 - 4.4 Follow standard operating procedures for intra and extra oral photography
 - 4.5 Follow standard operating procedures for applying topical fluoride

- 5. Be able to carry out adaptations to procedures according to patient group:**
by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:
- 5.1 Recognise the specific needs of an individual or group
 - 5.2 Adapt oral health procedure(s) and equipment to suit the specific needs of an individual or group

Assessment

This unit will be assessed by centre devised assessments.

One or more of the following assessment methods may be used:

- Course work
- Written examination
- Portfolio of Evidence
- Professional Discussion

Centre-assessed learner work will be subject to moderation by RSPH Qualifications. In order to obtain a Pass for the unit, learners must be able to demonstrate that they have achieved each of the learning outcomes.

Unit 10 Understand preventative practice for oral health practitioners

Total Unit Time: 28 hours

Guided Learning: 19 hours

Unit Level: 4

Unit reference number: T/618/5385

Summary of Learning Outcomes:

To achieve this unit a learner must:

- 1. Understand the principles of population health: *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:***
 - 1.1 Explain oral health trends for a range of demographic, social and geographical groups
 - 1.2 Explain the common risk factors relating to general and oral health
 - 1.3 Determine guidelines for best practice, including national and local health initiatives

- 2. Understand the relationship between general health systems and oral health: *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:***
 - 2.1 Explain the relationship between dental bacterial plaque and general health
 - 2.2 Explain the relationship between other oral health conditions and general health

- 3. Understand the purpose of general health screening activities: *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:***
 - 3.1 Explain the purpose of health screening for diabetes
 - 3.2 Explain the purpose of blood pressure readings
 - 3.3 Explain the purpose of taking blood tests
 - 3.4 Explain the purpose of taking biometric data of patients
 - 3.5 Explain the purpose of recording individual data such as smoking habits, diet, alcohol intake and activity levels.

- 4. Know the key health messages relating to oral health and general health: *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:***
 - 4.1 Explain the effect of diet, tobacco and alcohol on oral and general health
 - 4.2 Explain how different health conditions such as cancer and diabetes impact on oral health
 - 4.3 Determine methods for communicating health messages to a range of different patient groups

- 5. Understand the different needs and requirements of different patient groups: *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:***
 - 5.1 Explain how the age of a patient may affect their needs and requirements
 - 5.2 Explain how the general health of a patient may affect their needs and requirements

- 5.3 Explain how the domestic arrangements of a patient may affect their needs and requirements
- 5.4 Explain how the mobility of a patient may affect their needs and requirements
6. **Know how to develop strategies for improving oral health in the community:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 6.1 Explain a range of strategies that are employed in the community
 - 6.2 Evaluate the success of strategies used for improving oral health in the community
 - 6.3 Explain how different factors in a community may affect the choice and delivery of a strategy for improving oral health

Assessment

This unit will be assessed by centre devised assessments.

One or more of the following assessment methods may be used:

- Course work
- Written examination
- Portfolio of Evidence
- Professional Discussion

Centre-assessed learner work will be subject to moderation by RSPH Qualifications. In order to obtain a Pass for the unit, learners must be able to demonstrate that they have achieved each of the learning outcomes.

Unit 11 Carry out oral health practitioner preventative practice

Total Unit Time: 45 hours

Guided Learning: 29 hours

Unit Level: 4

Unit reference number: A/618/5386

Summary of Learning Outcomes:

To achieve this unit a learner must:

- 1. Be able to carry out planning for preventative practice sessions: *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:***
 - 1.1 Determine suitability of venues for preventative practice sessions
 - 1.2 Confirm presence of support staff at preventative practice sessions
 - 1.3 Prepare an appointment diary to ensure all preventative practice clients are allocated sufficient time for a consultation and health screening activities
 - 1.4 Ensure planning meets the requirements of the improving oral health strategy

- 2. Be able to carry out general health screening activities: *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:***
 - 2.1 Ensure health screening activities are carried out safely and appropriately
 - 2.2 Advise patients / clients of the results of the health screening
 - 2.3 Advise patients / clients of the possible effect of health screening findings on their general health
 - 2.4 Refer patients / clients to other services as appropriate

- 3. Be able to deliver oral health messages to patient / client groups or individuals: *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:***
 - 3.1 Ensure that the oral health message is appropriate to the needs of the patient / client group or individual
 - 3.2 Use of language and material is appropriate to the needs of the patient / client group or individual
 - 3.3 Demonstrate preventative oral health procedures effectively to a patient / client group or individual

- 4. Be able to deliver general systemic advice to patient / client groups or individuals: *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:***
 - 4.1 Ensure that the advice is appropriate to the needs of the patient / client group or individual
 - 4.2 Use of language and material is appropriate to the needs of the patient / client group or individual
 - 4.3 Demonstrate preventative general health procedures effectively to a patient / client group or individual

Assessment

This unit will be assessed by centre devised assessments.

One or more of the following assessment methods may be used:

- Course work
- Written examination
- Portfolio of Evidence
- Professional Discussion

Centre-assessed learner work will be subject to moderation by RSPH Qualifications. In order to obtain a Pass for the unit, learners must be able to demonstrate that they have achieved each of the learning outcomes.

Unit 12 Understand the role of the oral health practitioner

Total Unit Time: 20 hours

Guided Learning: 5 hours

Unit Level: 4

Unit Reference Number: F/618/5387

Summary of Learning Outcomes:

To achieve this unit a learner must:

- 1. Know how to care for the individual:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 1.1 Explain the importance of putting patient's interests first
 - 1.2 Explain how to treat people with dignity
 - 1.3 Use a range of personal oral health tools
 - 1.4 Apply legislation, policies and local ways of working related to their role
 - 1.5 Describe human anatomical features relevant to their role and how these features apply to patient management

- 2. Understand the oral practitioner's role in clinical practice:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 2.1 State the range of normal human structures and functions related to oral health
 - 2.2 Describe preventative oral and general health procedures
 - 2.3 Explain the importance of maintaining a clinical environment
 - 2.4 State the normal parameters for blood pressure and blood sugar levels and how these are measured.

- 3. Carry out procedures relevant to the oral practitioner's role in clinical practice:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 3.1 Plan practice sessions in the community
 - 3.2 Prepare a clinical environment appropriate for oral health treatments
 - 3.3 Maintain a clinical environment appropriate for oral health treatments
 - 3.4 Demonstrate a range of techniques and procedures used in clinical practice to the standard required of an oral health practitioner.

- 4. Understand the role of oral health practitioners in the community:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
 - 4.1 Explain the basic principles of population health
 - 4.2 Explain the concept of determinants of health
 - 4.3 Determine the needs of different patient groups
 - 4.4 Explain current theories in behaviour change and motivational interviewing
 - 4.5 Explain the need for effective communication with individuals and how to achieve this.

5. **Carry out personal development activities:** *by being able to meet the following assessment criteria:*
- 5.1 Agree continuing professional development activities and targets with line manager
 - 5.2 Obtain feedback from clients, managers and colleagues about own performance
 - 5.3 Document skills, knowledge and understanding developed as a result of reflective practice and activities for continuing professional development
 - 5.4 Evaluate own performance against agreed targets

Assessment

This unit will be assessed by centre devised assessments.

One or more of the following assessment methods may be used:

- Multiple choice examination
- Observation in the workplace
- Professional Discussion

An appropriate apprenticeship end-point assessment can be used to assess learners for this unit.

Centre-assessed learner work will be subject to moderation by RSPH Qualifications. In order to obtain a Pass for the unit, learners must be able to demonstrate that they have achieved each of the learning outcomes.

Centre Guidance

Exemptions

Learners who have achieved the following qualifications are exempt from Unit 1 Principles of Health Improvement:

- RSPH Level 2 Award in Understanding Health Improvement (Ofqual No. 600/0592/0) from January 2014 to March 2017
- RSPH Level 2 Award in Understanding Health Improvement (Ofqual No. 603/0655/5)

Learners who have achieved the following qualifications are exempt from Unit 2 Supporting behaviour change:

- RSPH Level 2 Award in understanding behaviour change (health and wellbeing) (Ofqual No. 600/6614/3)
- RSPH Level 2 Award in supporting behaviour change (Ofqual No. 603/3149/5).

Learners who have achieved the following qualification are exempt from Unit 3 Understand how to deliver an NHS Health Check.

- RSPH Level 2 Award in Understanding the delivery of an NHS Health Check (Ofqual No. 601/5893/1)

Evidence of prior certification must be provided by the centre when submitting the learner's assessment evidence and can take the form of a copy of the certificate. In order to be eligible for an exemption for these units, the requisite qualification must have been achieved within **THREE** years of registering for the Level 4 Diploma.

Progression

Learners who achieve this qualification can progress to employment as oral health practitioners or to qualifications leading to employment as a Dental Therapist or Dental Hygienist.

Entry Requirements

In order to register for this qualification learners must already be a dental nurse or other appropriate registered dental care professional with the General Dental Council.

Special Assessment Needs

Centres that have learners with special assessment needs should consult The Society's *Reasonable adjustments and special considerations* policy; this is available from The Society and The Society's web site (www.rsph.org.uk).

How to apply to offer this qualification

To become an approved centre to offer this qualification, please complete the 'Centre Application Form' which can be found on our website. If you are already an approved centre, please complete the 'Add an additional qualification form' that can be downloaded from the Centre area on the website www.rsph.org.uk. Please ensure that you include details of your quality assurance procedures, including internal verification of centre-assessed work. You will need to attach a CV to this application. As this qualification is predominantly centre assessed, RSPH will need to approve the assessments that the centre will be using for each of the units, so these will need to be provided with the application.

Please contact the Qualifications Department at: centreapproval@rsph.org.uk if you need any assistance.

Submission of completed learner assessment

Centres should follow the RSPH procedures for submitting internally assessed work for moderation. These can be found under **Resources** in the Centre Area of the Qualifications section of the RSPH website (www.rsph.org.uk).

Centres should ensure that the evidence submitted covers all of the learning outcomes and assessment criteria for each of the units in the qualification and that the evidence is suitable and sufficient to enable the moderator to judge whether or not the units have been achieved.

Assessment procedure documents and learner assessment summary forms for use with the centre-assessed units of this qualification are available in the Centre Area of the Qualifications section of the RSPH web-site (www.rsph.org.uk).

Evidence of internal quality assurance must be recorded, retained and made available to RSPH for the purposes of moderation.

Registration of Learners

Learner registration forms can be downloaded from the Centre Area of the Qualifications section of the RSPH web-site (www.rsph.org.uk).

Recommended Qualifications and Experience of Tutors

The Society would expect that tutors have teaching experience and a qualification in a relevant subject area, as well as sufficient experience in the profession.

Centres must be registered with RSPH.

Other Information

All RSPH specifications are subject to review. Any changes to the assessment or learning outcomes will be notified to Centres in advance of their introduction. To check the currency of this version of the specification, please contact the Qualifications Department or consult the RSPH website.

Contact Details

Any enquiries about this qualification should be made to:

The Qualifications Department,
Royal Society for Public Health,
John Snow House,
59 Mansell Street
London E1 8AN

Tel. 020 7265 7300
Fax. 020 7265 7301
E.mail rsph@rsph.org.uk
www.rsph.org.uk