

# **Pearson HE Recognition of Prior Learning Policy**

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## Introduction

This policy applies to students studying for Pearson HNC/Ds and the Level 5 Diploma in Education and Training at New City College.

### The purpose of this policy is:

- to provide clear guidance on Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), a term used by Pearson which incorporates Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL), Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL), Accreditation of Prior Achievement (APA) and Accreditation of Prior Learning and Achievement (APLA)
- not to compromise the integrity of assessment

## Definitions

*Recognition of Prior Learning*: This is a method of assessment (leading to the award of credit) that considers whether students can demonstrate that they can meet the assessment requirements of a unit through knowledge, understanding or skills already acquired. RPL is of particular value to students without formal qualifications. RPL should not be mistaken with exemption, unit equivalency or credit accumulation and transfer, which are dealt with under the Pearson Credit Accumulation and Transfer Policy.

RPL enables recognition of achievement from a range of activities using any valid assessment methodology.

As long as the assessment requirements of a given unit or qualification have been met, RPL may be used for accrediting a unit, units or even a whole qualification. Partial unit completion is not acceptable.

Evidence of learning must be sufficient, reliable and valid.

## Recognition of Prior Learning

RPL guidance and rules:

- RPL may be used for gaining entry to a programme;
- claims for RPL credit may be made prior to or after enrolment;
- evidence for RPL claims will be subject to internal quality assurance procedures;
- evidence submitted for a RPL claim must be:
  - valid – evidence submitted meets the learning outcomes;
  - authentic – it is the student's own work; some work may require endorsement from third parties;
  - current – has taken place within the last five years;
  - reliable – evidence accurately reflects level of performance which has been consistently demonstrated;
- RPL claims must be made available for external verification;
- students may appeal against an assessment decision on procedural grounds;
- the RPL process must comply with Pearson Policy.

Pearson latest policy: [https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/Support/policies-for-centres-learners-and-employees/Recognition\\_of\\_prior\\_learning\\_and\\_process\\_policy.pdf](https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/Support/policies-for-centres-learners-and-employees/Recognition_of_prior_learning_and_process_policy.pdf)