UKPSF Dimensions of Practice

The outline below provides an indication, rather than a definitive list of activities and relationships to the UK Professional Standards Framework for teaching and supporting learning 2011(UKPSF).

This document will help explain what is meant by the terms used in the UKPSF. Specific guidance on how to claim HEA Fellowship is provided in the Fellowship guidance notes.

Depending on the category of Fellowship you are applying for, you will be expected to demonstrate how your experience relates to the various Dimensions of Practice. This document provides examples of the types of evidence you might provide.

This guidance addresses the following questions:
1. What are the UKPSF Dimensions of Practice?
2. How do the Dimensions relate to each other?
3. How can I demonstrate my engagement with the Areas of Activity?
4. How should I show my understanding of the appropriate Core Knowledge?
5. How should I demonstrate my commitment to the Professional Values?

1. What are the UKPSF Dimensions of Practice?

The UKPSF identifies the diversity of higher education teaching and support roles and environments. These are reflected and are expressed in the Dimensions of Practice.

The Dimensions of Practice are three sets of statements outlining the:

- **five areas of activity** which you undertake when teaching, supporting and facilitating learning in higher education;
- **six aspects of core knowledge** needed to carry out the areas of activity; **four professional values** which you should embrace and demonstrate in your teaching or support of teaching.

2. How do the Dimensions of Practice relate to each other?

While the framework separates the Dimensions of Practice into the three sets, the fifteen statements which make up these sets are interlinked. Combined they cover the complexity of professional roles in higher education, be it teaching, student support or the supervision of research students.
Areas of Activity

A1 Design and plan learning activities and/or programmes of study
A2 Teach and/or support learning
A3 Assess and give feedback to learners
A4 Develop effective learning environments and approaches to student support and guidance
A5 Engage in continuing professional development in subjects/disciplines and their pedagogy, incorporating research, scholarship and the evaluation of professional practices

Core Knowledge

K1 The subject material
K2 Appropriate methods for teaching, leaning and assessing the subject area and at the level of the academic programme
K3 How students learn, both generally and within their subject/disciplinary area(s)
K5 Methods for evaluating the effectiveness of teaching
K6 The implications of quality assurance and quality enhancement for academic and professional practice with a particular focus on teaching

Professional Values

VI Respect individual learners and diverse learning communities
V2 Promote participation in higher education and equality of opportunity for learners
V3 Use evidence-informed approaches and the outcomes from research, scholarship and continuing professional development
V4 Acknowledge the wider context in which higher education operates recognising the implications for professional practice

Dimensions of Practice August 2015
In the sections below we describe what each of the fifteen statements are about and then provide examples of the types of evidence you might provide to demonstrate how your experience relates to them.

Your level of engagement with the three Dimensions will depend on the category of Fellowship for which you are applying. HEA Fellowship is aligned to the UKPSF "descriptors" that outline the key characteristics of four broad categories of typical teaching and support roles:

- Associate Fellow - Descriptor 1 (D1);
- Fellow - Descriptor 2 (D2);
- Senior Fellow - Descriptor 3 (D3).

Separate guidance is provided for Principal Fellow - Descriptor 4 (D4).

3. How can I demonstrate my engagement with the Areas of Activity?

There are five Areas of Activity:

A1: Design and plan learning activities and/or programmes of study;
A2: Teach and/or support learning;
A3: Assess and give feedback to learners;
A4: Develop effective learning environments and approaches to student support and guidance;
A5: Engage in continuing professional development in subjects/disciplines and their pedagogy, incorporating research, scholarship and the evaluation of professional practices.

A1: Design and plan learning activities and/or programmes of study

What is this Area of Activity about?

This is about what you do to plan and prepare the students' learning activities, whether face to face or in the virtual learning environment.

You will have different approaches to this, based on factors such as the HE level being taught, the learning outcomes for the module, programme of study or individual teaching activity (which may for example, involve working with individual research students).

How can I demonstrate my engagement?

You may not have a great deal of autonomy in this process or you may have total responsibility - this will vary depending on your role and experience. Your application could include the following examples:

Associate Fellow (DeLriptui)
You need to identify and plan different kinds of interactions with learners within different contexts, which could be sessions, or a series of sessions, with individual students and/or small groups. This might include for example: seminar, laboratory, library activities, learning support, online or fieldwork.
You need to show that you understand what you have planned is appropriate for your student/s. You would typically be able to identify a small range of activities from the examples in the Fellow section below.

**Fellow (Descriptor 2)**
This could range from the design of a series of sessions, a module or a whole programme of study and may involve:

- designing a new course or programme or the redesign of an existing curriculum;
- designing new modules for an existing course or programme;
- developing new bespoke courses or programmes for learning support, study skills, student support or professional development, induction;
- contributing to the development and improvement of courses/programmes as a part of a team and making clear what your role was within the team.

**Senior Fellow (Descriptor 3)**
Examples could range from module design to a whole programme of study, as for the Fellowship, but require a focus on the co-ordination of teams in these activities in order to demonstrate the 'successful co-ordination, support, supervision, management and/or mentoring of others (whether individuals and/or teams) in relation to teaching and learning.' (UKPSF D3.VII).

This may involve activities such as:

- contributing to the development of an institutional strategy related to supporting learning and teaching;
- developing and implementing resources, induction, student guides and study skills support across departments, faculties etc;
- co-ordination and evaluation of cross-institution initiatives (programme design, induction, structure of the academic year, student support, teaching and learning spaces etc);
- contributing to cross-disciplinary services and activities;
- active participation and contribution to approval, validation and enhancement processes.

**How does this Area of Activity interact with the other Dimensions?**
In all cases, except D1, the activity should reflect knowledge and understanding of the following aspects of Core Knowledge (see Section 3):

- K1: The subject material;
- K2: Appropriate methods for teaching and learning in the subject area and at the level of the academic programme;
- K3: How students learn, both generally and within their subject/disciplinary area(s);
- K4: The use and value of appropriate learning technologies;
- K6: The implications of quality assurance and quality enhancement for academic and professional practice with a particular focus on teaching.

It should also be possible to link to one or more of the four Professional Values (see Section 4).
A2: Teach and/or support learning

What is this Area of Activity about?

This is about your direct engagement and interaction with learners, whether in groups or individually, remotely or face to face.

These may be formal, timetabled approaches or they might be outside of planned timetables and more informal in nature, but nevertheless essential to student learning and taking place in a wide range of contexts including (for example):

- classrooms and lecture theatres;
- seminar rooms;
- in the field;
- laboratories;
- learning support centres;
- offices;
- virtual environments;
- studios;
- creative practice environments;
- libraries and resource centres.

Your teaching activities might include:

- lecturing and teaching;
- small group tutorial and seminar work;
- demonstrating;
- studio, clinical, laboratory or workplace-based teaching;
- distance learning;
- individual one to one support sessions (tutorials, academic support, learning support);
- use of virtual learning and support environments;
- workshops;
- visits;
- supervision;
- coaching and mentoring.

How can I demonstrate my engagement?

You should demonstrate a current and ongoing awareness of different approaches to and methods of teaching and supporting learning as well as a growing ability to choose the most appropriate approach for the achievement of learning/curriculum aims.

Your application could include the following activities:
**Associate Fellow (Descriptor 1)**

As an Associate Fellow you will typically be able to identify activities from the list above. This might include:

- running seminars or tutorials with individuals or groups of students to support their learning in lectures;
- demonstrating in practical sessions;
- facilitating learning or supporting another member of staff through mentoring or coaching;
- teaching as part of a team;
- providing academic skills/learning support for students;
- working with students on learning technologies;
- providing bespoke online resources;
- run a formative exercise in class to provide feedback;
- supporting the development of students’ research skills.

**Fellow (Descriptor 2)**

This might draw examples from a range of activities to illustrate the appropriate and effective teaching approaches you use with your learners. This might include:

- specific approaches you use in your teaching or support of learning. These might be in the range of contexts mentioned above (classroom lectures, seminars, field, labs, library etc);
- working with students on a one-to-one basis, including activities covered for Associate Fellow above;
- contributing to in-house professional learning and teaching programmes;
- developing research and information support on a one-to-one basis or in groups;
- supervision of postgraduates;
- creative studios;
- practice workshops;
- developing approaches to demonstrate high level subject skills;
- contributing to student practical skills;
- developing services, tools and technologies to support the VLE;
- supporting learning, specific to the context i.e. professional, resource based, library, technology based etc.

**Senior Fellow (Descriptor 3)**

Examples should include reference to your teaching activities as indicated for Associate and Fellow but require a focus on the ‘successful co-ordination, support, supervision, management and/or mentoring of others (whether individuals and/or teams) in relation to teaching and learning.’ (UKPSF D3.VII) This may involve activities where you have worked with others to develop their skills in teaching and supporting learning including working with students, colleagues or peers (within the institution and external). You do not have to be directly engaged in teaching and supporting students but may be demonstrating your influence on how others deliver or support student learning. Exemplars of evidence might include:

- coaching and mentoring of new and existing staff;
- implementing developmental peer observation of teaching or learning support;
- leading on effective learning and teaching initiatives and innovations which have influenced the practice of others;
- the development of research students in their teaching role, through supervision;
leading projects, research, strategic targets/aims which have contributed to enhanced student learning or support;

- increasing integration in work teams and committees impacting on the quality of learning.

How does this Area of Activity interact with other Dimensions?

In all cases it is important to include your rationale for your choice of activity and approach, thereby addressing the majority of Core Knowledge, with the exception of D1 which requires K1 and K2 to be addressed as a minimum:

- K1: the subject material;
- K2: appropriate methods for teaching, learning and assessment in the subject area and at the level of the academic programme;
- K3: how students learn, both generally and within their subjects/disciplinary area(s);
- K4: the use and value of appropriate learning technologies.

Other aspects of Core Knowledge may also be relevant.

There is also an expectation that the following Professional Values will be highlighted:

- V1: respect individual learners and diverse learning communities;
- V2: promote participation in higher education and equality of opportunity for learners;
- V3: use evidence informed approaches and the outcomes from research, scholarship and continuing professional development.

A3: Assess and give feedback to learners

What is this Area of Activity about?

This is about how you:

- assess and give feedback to learners to foster and encourage their learning;
- assess students' progress and make judgements about their learning during and on completion of their study with you.

The assessment you undertake may be formative and/or summative, formal and/or informal. Feedback may be face-to-face, written, or using electronic means such as podcasts and social media. As assessment and feedback are not always 'formal' and 'summative' you can include work with research students, colleagues and peers and activities relating to students in learning support contexts. They must however, relate to HE provision. This does not therefore require the summative marking of student work for degree classification but can relate to informal formative assessment of students within the HE setting.

How can I demonstrate my engagement?

There is a clear differentiation of how this area is evidenced for the different descriptors and categories of Fellowship due to the different activities typically undertaken by individuals.
Associate Fellow (Descriptor 1)
You will normally not be setting or writing assessment criteria, but you will need to demonstrate an understanding of:

- the importance of assessment and feedback in the context of your work with students;
- how you make informed, formative judgements about students' work;
- the role that assessment and feedback plays in supporting learning;
- the appropriateness of the assessment approaches and feedback techniques for their specific context.

This could be through activities such as:

- one to one meetings in tutorials;
- teaching sessions;
- individual appraisals, mentoring and coaching sessions;
- research interviews;
- practical work in the contexts of laboratory or field work;
- work placements;
- reflective diaries and journals;
- observation of practice;
- formal approaches to assessment such as exams, essays and tests;
- conversation and dialogue - responding to student problems, enquiries;
- practical and skills tests;
- presentations and/or group work;
- crits and displays;
- live performance;
- small groups in surveys and focus groups;
- delivering a staff development programme.

It might include the feedback given on, for example:

- submitted written work and the assignment of marks; through annotating students' work;
- informal assessment of learning within digital literacy sessions or information skills sessions;
- feedback on CVs for students seeking work;
- feedback to students whilst working in practical laboratory or fieldwork sessions;
- judging students' understanding during and following library induction sessions;
- verbal feedback at an enquiry help desk;
- feedback to colleagues during teaching observations;
- assessment and support to students during study skills/academic literacy sessions;
- providing feedback within online resource/training packages;
- preparing students for assessment through academic support.
Your application needs to demonstrate:

- a routine use of feedback and feed-forward approaches to improve learning and develop learner autonomy. This may be regarding specific pieces of assessed work or assignments, approaches developed or changed over a period of time to adapt to increasing learner autonomy; how assessment and feedback contributes to student and/or others' learning. This might be about approaches developed or used to enhance the learning of specific attributes or skills (individuals working in groups, reflection, critical thinking, personal learning strategies, research skills, library skills, digital literacy etc);
- an awareness of an appropriate range of assessment methods and the rationale for their use. This might include focus on the combination of assessment approaches used to develop and assess specific outcomes or aims, changing assessment and feedback approaches to ensure they are more effective for different types of learners, at different levels, in different contexts etc; an understanding of the implications of quality assurance and a commitment to quality enhancement (links to K6). This might be about approaches used within the context of a new/revised module, course or programme where subject benchmarking and/or professional standards are integral, or in a service learning support activity where timeframes or other restrictions influence the approaches you are able to use. Evidence of how you have applied this knowledge to your practice should feature within your application;
- feedback and assessment related to diagnostic activities such as informal assessment of learning, review of documentation in preparation for placements etc for staff in learning support roles.

Senior Fellow (Descriptor 3)

Your application can draw on the examples above for Fellows, but needs to additionally demonstrate how your practice has impacted on students, the curriculum (or programme of study/learning) and how assessment and feedback contributes to the learning of others and the enhancement of their practice.

This might be through:

- management and co-ordination of programmes, subjects and/or learning support functions where assessment and feedback is integral to effective learning;
- supporting new or experienced teachers through providing developmental feedback on evidence about their practice;
- staff development and appraisals that focus specifically on learning and teaching and the enhancement of student learning;
- mentoring and coaching focused on assessment and feedback;
- research on the impact of assessment and feedback and implementing recommendations.
How does this Area of Activity interact with other Dimensions?

In all cases it is important to include a context statement and basic information about your learners with a rationale for your choice of assessment and feedback approach. This will enable you to address, as a minimum, the following Professional Values and Core Knowledge statements:

VI: respect individual learners and diverse learning communities;
V2: promote participation in higher education and equality of opportunity for learners;
V3: use evidence-informed approaches and the outcomes from research, scholarship and continuing professional development;
K6: the implications of quality assurance and quality enhancement for academic and professional practice with a particular focus on teaching.

A4: Develop effective learning environments and approaches to student support and guidance

What is this Area 01 Activity about:

This is about how you use the formal and informal learning environments effectively to facilitate student learning and how you meet the needs of your learners for educational support and guidance. The examples you might use will vary greatly depending on the physical and virtual environments in which you teach or support learners, the nature of the subject or discipline and the nature of the student/s. All these points need to be considered in evidencing how you:

utilise and manage the range of physical or virtual learning environments so that they are appropriate to your learners' needs;
work with learners, service providers and/or teaching staff to ensure that your learners can access and use a broad range of learning opportunities.

How can I demonstrate engagement:

Your application should draw upon the activities that you use and include a clear rationale for your use of these. It may link directly to activities you have used in other dimensions but should seek to demonstrate:

Associate Fellow (Descriptor 1)

As you would typically be identifying a small range of activities for A1 and A2, it is possible that you will need to focus on these same activities. The emphasis will need to focus on your understanding of the importance of the learning environment/s, acknowledging the different styles of learning that take place in them. This may be physical and virtual learning spaces, visual, written and practice-based learning. Learning support activities might refer to learning through tutoring, one to one advice, counselling, developing practice to meet the learning implications of widening access, supporting learners with disabilities etc.

This could be through activities such as:

physical space layout and/or redevelopment;
'induction and warm up events;
changing how students work in the space;
development of digital learning spaces for specific disciplines or learner needs;
practice based learning;
using technology through, for example, flipped classrooms;
developing learner guides and/or resource packs.

**Fellow 'Descriptor 2')**
A Fellow will typically draw on a wider range of activities than those outlined for Associate Fellow. You need to clearly show the links between environments and learning and explain how and why the environment is appropriate within your context and/or discipline. As you will have a greater range of activities to draw from you might include activities such as:
- creating new approaches to utilise the spaces in which you have to teach and/or support learners;
- developing resources and interactivity for a virtual learning environment;
- developing interdisciplinary or professional/work based resources;
- work based learning and placements;
- bringing in aspects of professional practice to the learning environment;
- using digital literacies.

**Senior Fellow (Descriptor 3)**
You will need to further develop the requirements for a Fellow through providing an understanding of student support in its widest context and illustrating how your practice has supported student learning. This can include how you have worked with others (student support, professional services, academic or teaching staff, employers or professionals) to create physical learning spaces and how they are integrated into curriculum planning and development. Once again you do not have to be directly engaged in teaching and supporting students but may be demonstrating your influence on how others deliver or support student learning. Exemplars of evidence might include:
- working with senior teams or committees to design and/or redevelop learning environments and spaces, explaining role and contribution within the team;
- leading projects or initiatives that result in changes to learning environments and spaces (physical or virtual);
- co-ordinating support teams in projects that enhance student support - student partnerships, peer assisted learning, student mentors etc.
- leading design and implementation of virtual learning resources or support.

**How does this Area of Activity interact with the other Dimensions?**
Your evidence for this dimension should highlight your application of Core Knowledge and inclusive practice and link to:

- K3: how students learn, both generally and within their subject/ disciplinary area(s);
- K4: the use and value of appropriate learning technologies;
- V1: Respect individual learners and diverse learning communities;
- V2: Promote participation in higher education and equality of opportunity for learners.
A5: Engage in continuing professional development in subjects/disciplines and their pedagogy, incorporating research, scholarship and the evaluation of professional practices

What is this Area of Activity about?

This is about how you maintain and continue to develop your capability in teaching and learning support and, for the Senior Fellow, your leadership activities and roles. It includes:

- how you gather and utilise information on the effectiveness of your own practice;
- how you engage with and use your own CPD activities to enhance your practice;
- how you incorporate subject and pedagogic research and/or scholarship within your professional practice as a teacher/supporter of learning;
- how the activities you undertake as part of a group or team impact on your approaches and practices and that of others, such as colleagues engaged in teaching and learning, in your discipline or more widely.

You do not have to be directly involved in research but you do need to indicate how you use scholarly and/or professional activity to maintain your teaching and support of learning.

Using the definitions by Kreber:

"the scholarship of teaching is the intellectual, practical and critical work done by college and university teachers; that is, aimed at pursuing significant educational goals" (p393, 2005) and "scholarship is enacted when we engage in purposeful and critical reflection on our own teaching". (p81, 2013).

In relation to your application for HEA fellowship, 'scholarship' will be evidenced differently for each descriptor but should include a focus on pedagogy and your subject knowledge. It should typically cover a range of exchanges with peers operating at a variety of levels - this might be informal dialogue, conversations and classroom experiments; action research; conferences and seminars; exchanges; publications, all of which potentially provide evidence of good scholarly practice through critique and reflection.

WAN can I demonstrate my engagement?

This would minimally include showing how you use other people's work to inform your practice for teaching or student support and examples of activities which have resulted in the development of your understanding and practice.

For example:

- annual personal/professional development review discussion about your teaching development;
- participating in staff development events relating to teaching and learning, generally and/or in your discipline;
- engagement with a credit-bearing programme in HE education;
evidence of engagement with continuing professional development activities and how you have used the learning;
use of academic and/or professional practice resources as part of your work;
observation of teaching/student support;
inviting observation and feedback on your own practice;
making use of a piece of published pedagogic research to inform your practice.

Descriptor 2 (Fellow)
This would minimally include using the work of others to inform your practice and identifying areas in which you have made a difference, or a contribution, locally.

For example:

- using the experience of peer observation of teaching to reflect upon and change aspects of your own teaching;
- reading and making use of the published pedagogic literature to inform your practice;
- conducting a piece of action research and disseminating the findings at a teaching and learning conference;
- contributing to staff development events;
- writing a research paper on the approaches to supporting students with Dyslexia;
- engagement with your professional association;
- attended validation training.

Descriptor 3 (Senior Fellow)
This would typically include how you have made a contribution to the enhancement of learning through discussion and debate (within your institution, at external conferences or through published literature).

For example:

- mentoring staff to take on academic responsibilities;
- leading a team through curriculum redesign;
- external examining;
- leading staff development;
- undertaking CPD related to academic leadership;
- role within a Professional Association or Professional Body.

Engagement in CPD should support the development and improvement of your own practice.

How does this Area of Activity interact with the other Dimensions?
It is important to consider how you are developing other aspects of Core Knowledge and applying Professional Values. It may help to start thinking this through in relation to K1-K3, V3 and V4.
4. How should I show my understanding of the appropriate Core Knowledge?

The six aspects of Core Knowledge are:

- K1: The subject material;
- K2: Appropriate methods for teaching, learning and assessing in the subject area and at the level of the academic programme;
- K3: How students learn, both generally and within their subject/disciplinary area(s);
- K4: The use and value of appropriate learning technologies;
- K5: Methods of evaluating the effectiveness of teaching;
- K6: The implications of quality assurance and quality enhancement for academic and professional practice with a particular focus on teaching.

Your understanding of Core Knowledge is most easily demonstrated through your engagement with the Areas of Activity. For example:

- designing and planning a learning activity (Area of Activity 1) successfully would be determined by your level of subject knowledge (Core Knowledge 1) and the use of appropriate teaching and learning methods (Core Knowledge 2);
- an understanding of how the particular students learn (Core Knowledge 3) and the use of appropriate learning technologies (Core Knowledge 4).

Linking the Core Knowledge to Areas of Activity provides greater coherence and depth to the evidence and more accurately reflects the reality of practice.

**K1: The subject material**

**What is this Core Knowledge about?**

An understanding of how the nature of the subject is used to typically inform the design and planning of learning activities and programmes of study, the teaching strategies and the assessment and feedback. For those in learning support areas the 'subject' should be identified as the 'service'. For example - study skills support, information management, learning technologies. This Core Knowledge is particularly influenced by a wider understanding of the nature of the subject, the student body and the context in which learning, teaching activities and learning support happens.

You are expected to demonstrate:

- an awareness of the scholarship, and possibly research (if appropriate to your role) within the subject, which in turn informs the curriculum/programme of study; an up to date knowledge of the subject area links to:
  - A5: Engage in continuing professional development in subjects/disciplines and their pedagogy, incorporating research, scholarship and the evaluation of professional practices; V3: Use evidence-informed approaches and the outcomes from research, scholarship and CPD.
In discussing your practice you should show that:

subject matter links to learning and teaching methods and to assessment and feedback; subject matter aligns with the appropriate method, course design and assessment approaches; there is an awareness of subject matter in relation to academic level of study.

In the context of supporting learning this may, for example, relate to skills such as digital literacy, employability, specific learning needs or practical skills such as health and safety within laboratories.

Examples might include:

- applying knowledge from professional practice or postgraduate study or research;
- leading on the development of subject resources;
- directing staff activities and development of discipline research;
- leading professional body accreditation.

How does this Core Knowledge interact with the other Dimensions?

- Al: Design and plan learning activities and/or programmes of study;
- A2: Teach and/or support learning.

**K2: Appropriate methods for teaching and learning in the subject area and at the level of the academic programme**

What is this Core Knowledge about?

This is about:

- the distinctive methods that make teaching or supporting learning in your subject area;
- acknowledging that some approaches are more appropriate than others given the nature of the learning desired, the level of the material being taught and the readiness and learning stage of students.

Not forgetting that the level of the academic programme being delivered will impact on the approaches used.

**How should I demonstrate this?**

This requires a clear rationale, underpinned by scholarship, for the approach taken and evidence of its effectiveness. An example might be articulating the rationale for the use of large lectures within certain situations versus an alternative approach such as group work. This is clearly linked to demonstrating Core Knowledge 1 and 3 with a focus on understanding the subject material. It is also specifically concerned with the strategies and approaches used to teach or support the learning of the subject. You should also refer to the challenges encountered by different groups or types of learners and indicate how you are able to adapt accordingly.
Examples might include
  group work;
  workshops in creative writing;
  problem based learning.

**How does this Core Knowledge interact with the other Dimensions?**

A2: Teach and/or support learning;
A3: Assess and give feedback to learners;
A5: Engage in continuing professional development in subjects/disciplines and their pedagogy, incorporating research, scholarship and the evaluation of professional practices;
K5: Methods of evaluating the effectiveness of teaching.

**K3: How students learn, both generally and within their subject/discipline area**

**What is this Core Knowledge about?**

This requires you to think generally about how students learn within the context of your subject/discipline. You will need to demonstrate your understanding of the characteristics of different learners (such as mature students, recent school leavers or workplace learners and how you meet their needs through the teaching and supporting learning approaches, the learning environment.

You will also need to show how you adapt and change your practices and approaches in response to the specific characteristics of your subject. Reference could be made to different theories of, or approaches to, learning and how you use these to develop subject specific strategies for teaching and supporting learning. (Core Knowledge 1).

**How should I demonstrate this?**

There is an expectation that an application for Fellowship will include discussion about your rationale for the approaches you use and their effectiveness and some evidence of the student response to this. You might take into account the characteristics of and the diversity within the student cohort. There should ideally be reference to scholarship and inclusive practice.

While you are not asked for a critique of learning theory there is an expectation that you will demonstrate a scholarly understanding of the theory which underpins your practice.

For example:

  how provision of dedicated group study spaces enhances learning; why simulations are used in teaching;
  how changes from a didactic approach to increased interaction and participation in sessions impact on learning.
K4: The use and value of appropriate learning technologies

What is this Core Knowledge about?

The value and use of learning technologies are wide and varied, typically extending beyond the basic use of PowerPoint and a virtual learning environment. In many instances the use of learning technologies will be highly subject or context specific. The rationale for your use of learning technologies, therefore, needs to be clearly articulated.

'Ow should I dem' Fistrate this? Your examples should demonstrate:

- how and why specific technologies are used to support learning;
- the use of appropriate technologies (including assistive technologies and/or related reasonable adjustments);
- how the needs of learners with disabilities are accommodated in light of the institution's responsibilities;
- relevance to the context of the subject or discipline;
- the impact on student learning;
- how the impact made by using this technology is evaluated.

For Associate Fellow and Fellow this should relate to personal use of technology, rather than institutional policy.

For Senior Fellow and Principal Fellow this may relate to your influence on the inclusion and development of policies within the local context and beyond.

Examples

- incorporating the use of social media to support students;
- providing online tutorials;
- making tablets available in sessions with video capture software;
- developing Apps to support online learning and information management;
- developing FAQs as a resource for staff and students.

How does this Loi e knowlecige interact with the other Dimensions?

- A2: Teach and/or support learning;
- A3: Assess and give feedback to learners;
- A4: Develop effective learning environments and approaches to student support and guidance; K3: How students learn, both generally and within their subject/disciplinary area(s).
K5: Methods for evaluating the effectiveness of teaching

What is this Core Knowledge about?
This is concerned with the ways you gather information about the success of your teaching, assessment and feedback in enabling students to meet the intended outcomes.

An essential part of higher education is ensuring the effectiveness of teaching practices. This core knowledge focuses on the ways you use different approaches (formal and/or informal) to gather information and data about the impact of teaching, how these are used to enhance and develop teaching and learning support practice.

How should I demonstrate this?
You should consider the different ways you gain feedback about your teaching, formally and informally. This will normally be from students but can also be from peers/colleagues and other sources. This includes formal evaluation processes such as information gathered at the end of a period of teaching (end of module evaluation). But there may also be examples where you have used other sources of information to analyse and, as a consequence change, your approaches/practices. This might include:

- student performance;
- responses to student feedback;
- learning gained from peer review/observation;
- changes made on the basis of your personal reflections on practice;
- using information from external evaluation or review to critically analyse your practice and make appropriate changes.

Evaluation is a continuous cycle and the application of this can raise concerns (one's own, and that of learners, colleagues, managers and leaders). Through a process of reflection and action you need to evidence how these activities have led to changes and enhancement.

For Senior Fellowship (Descriptor 3), it is particularly important to demonstrate how you know your practice has influenced others, been effective and generated impact.

Examples:

- peer observation of teaching;
- conducting a library use survey;
- using informatics to enhance learning and teaching practice;
- implementation of periodic enhanced review;
- evaluation of workshop events;
- measuring the impact of virtual learning environments through analysis tools such as Blackboard analytics;
- involvement in validation and course approval;
- formalising feedback mechanisms and analysis of results.
What is this Core Knowledge about!

Quality assurance and quality enhancement are deeply embedded in higher education through procedures such as programme validation, monitoring, review and exam boards. These processes shape academic practice and are implicit in what you do as a teacher or in your support of learning. Critical to Core Knowledge 6 is the awareness of formal quality assurance and quality enhancement processes and requirements such as the need to work within institutional frameworks and professional and statutory body requirements.

In! F h n #10 p rraramonstrate this?
You should consider:

- how you use evaluation feedback to enhance your practice and the student learning experience; how you seek opportunities to obtain feedback, other than relying on the institutional procedures already in place, to develop your teaching and support activities;
- how you understand and respond to the HE quality regulations and the need to continually enhance the student learning experience.

For those working outside higher education institutions or in a freelance capacity, you will need to evidence your personal interest in, understanding of and commitment to quality assurance and enhancement procedures and how these are established and embedded within your practice. This would typically include evidence of a knowledge and understanding of the quality assurance frameworks at a national level and how these are manifested (at the appropriate level and context) in your work.

How does this Core Knowledge interact with the other Dimensions?

Quality assurance and enhancement is implicit within the academic infrastructure and links directly to: A1:
- Design and plan learning activities and/or programmes of study;
- A2: Teach and/or support learning;
- A3: Assess and give feedback to learners.

Adherence to policy and practice in ensuring equality and transparency/fairness links to:
- V1: Respect individual learners and diverse learning communities;
- V2: Promote participation in higher education and equality of opportunity for learners; V4: Acknowledge the wider context in which higher education operates recognising the implications for professional practice.

Some engagement with formal processes and commentary on how these have shaped practice will demonstrate that you are not merely adopting a tick box approach but show your understanding of how assurance and enhancement is applied, its impact and why it is important to the student experience and wider context.
While this is possibly one of the hardest dimensions to articulate, you should try to demonstrate that as a teacher or supporter of learning you do not "exist in a bubble" and that you are responsible to external imperatives (e.g. institutional Quality Assurance, Professional and Statutory bodies, Quality Assurance Agency etc) and that you can demonstrate that you work towards improving practice in this context.

For staff in support roles, quality assurance and quality enhancement could relate to the development of in-house quality processes relating to relevant professional practice.

Examples:

- involvement in periodic review teams;
- working with other aligned professional bodies;
- quality assurance of learning resources to ensure they support teaching effectively;
- staff development;
- development of institutional assessment policy;
- conducted review for the professional body;
- sitting on validation panel(s) to provide information on how learning resources and student support contribute to the quality of the student experience.

5. How can I demonstrate my commitment to the Professional Values?

The focus of Professional Values is associated with the integrity of the individual practitioner. How you are able to demonstrate them is likely to be different depending on the role/s you have.

The UKPSF articulates how the professional values should explicitly underpin teaching and supporting learning in higher education and the process of recognition requires the explicit demonstration of 'a commitment to all the professional values'.

As with the other dimensions there is some utility in separating the different components to ensure an understanding of each, but in reality the professional values overlap and are integrated in individual and institutional practice. For example, the Professional Values impact on the Core Knowledge and the Areas of Activity by shaping the activity and the understanding and knowledge in an almost unconscious way.

Evidencing the Professional Values takes place in a setting which itself reflects values through the institutional mission and culture, which may shift in emphasis over time. Individuals may themselves place different emphases and importance on values in their professional practice and, like all values, they are hard to evidence.

In an application, Professional Values emerge most clearly in the way that you are able to draw examples from practice for each of the dimensions which provides context, rationale, evidence of impact or response.

For Associate Fellow, Fellow and Senior Fellow (Descriptor 1, 2 and 3) the evidence of commitment to the professional values in practice will influence teaching and learning and the adoption and communication of positive attitudes and behaviours will provide evidence of a commitment to the (relevant) values.
V1: Respect individual learners and diverse learning communities

What is this Professional Value about,

The way teaching and supporting learning incorporates activities, actions and approaches which understand, consider and respond to the individual needs of learners and learning communities.

How

designing flexible learning activities that are accessible to international students;
tailoring delivery for specific students. For example parents with young children, non-native speakers, first year undergraduate, first generation students;
induction for students entering at level 5 from foundation degrees;
developing accessible online resources for students with specific learning needs.

'Diverse learning communities' could refer to groups of students who are campus based, online or work based communities. They may also be defined by the protected characteristics as outlined in the 2010 Equality Act. You need to be able to demonstrate that you value and can work effectively with and within these diverse learning communities.

Examples

developing accessible online resources for staff; providing an enquiry service for remote access; webinars for international students;
video inductions;
induction for international students;
assisted learner scheme.

V2: Promote participation in higher education and equality of opportunity for learners

What is this Professional Value about:

Providing evidence of how a commitment to participation in higher education and equality of opportunity for learners underpins your practice in relation to teaching and supporting learning.

How can I demonstrate my commitment to this Value?

There is potential to cover a broad spectrum of activities, approaches and behaviours linked to all the Areas of Activity and Core Knowledge. Evidence should ideally indicate wide and pervasive approaches to ensuring equality of opportunity supported by examples of inclusive and accessible practice.

Examples:

admissions processes;
induction activities;
outreach work;
providing alternative formats;
digitisation of resources to increase accessibility;
widening participation and access strategy;
design of a survey regarding accessibility;
extended opening hours for library and IT services;
adjusting procedures to ensure they are fair and equitable.

V3: Use evidence informed approaches and the outcomes from research, scholarship and continuing professional development

What is this Professional Value about:
The use of evidence informed approaches, the ability to draw on and contribute to, a range of sources of evidence and to use them to inform teaching and learning practice. You should use the outcomes from relevant research, scholarship and professional development to make principled, informed and considered judgements that enhance practice and the learning experience. This value advocates the importance of direct involvement in enquiry (in teaching and learning) to support your own professional development and to enhance your teaching or learning support activities. V3 closely links to A5: Engage in continuing professional development in subject/discipline and their pedagogy, incorporating research, scholarship and the evaluation of professional practices.

How can I demonstrate my commitment to this Value?
Evidence might include:
consideration and application of the findings from reading, studies (yours or others);
personal enquiry of (for example) teaching, learning, learners, the subject, the environment, support approaches etc, in order to enhance practice and the student learning experience;
conducting and using your own research to enhance the curriculum. Your research should be informed by reading and/or research about curriculum design, the nature of the subject and the learners, and provide a rationale for the design of the curriculum and its delivery;
developing and/or using informed approaches to plan learning and support activities in response to relevant professional body research and resources.

Examples:
students involved as researchers in projects;
measuring impact on service delivery;
JISC benchmarking;
using NSS data.
'V4: Acknowledges the wider context in which higher education operates recognising the implications for professional practice

What is this Professional Value about?
Being alert to the issues that may impact on institutional missions and/or which might have an influence on the student learning experience, curriculum design and/or personal and collective professional practice. These may be from a wide range of influencers including (but not exclusively) the HE sector, professional associations, disciplinary bodies or networks, government or research bodies.

How can I demonstrate my commitment to this Value?

- showing how you have responded to the current demands of the Equality Act 2010, the employment agenda, or the widening access and participation agenda;
- addressing professional body requirements;
- responding to relevant government legislation;
- addressing decreasing learning and teaching resources;
- responding to new institutional strategic aspirations/targets.

Current agendas include: sustainability (the practice of sustainability and education for sustainability), student engagement, and inclusive practice which includes reasonable adjustments for students with disabilities.

Examples:
- involvement in regional groups;
- contribution to senior committees;
- increasing employability funding and extending availability to sections of the University;
- developing a multidisciplinary approach.

All the experience and evidence included in your application must relate to HE provision, for further details see The Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies.

For international qualifications see:
- first cycle or above of the Qualifications Framework in the European Higher Education Area (QF-EHEA);
- level 6 or above of the Australian Qualifications Framework;
- level 5 or above of the New Zealand Qualification Framework;
- other equivalent higher education frameworks;
delivery of non-credit-bearing continuing professional development for academic and learning support staff in higher education may also be considered as evidence equivalent to the higher education academic frameworks.