



NCFE CACHE Level 3 Applied General Certificate in Health and Social Care (603/2914/2)

External Assessment Task

AGCHSC

Start date: Thursday 8 January 2026

Submission date: Monday 26 January 2026

Time allowed: 8 hours

Paper number: Past paper

This external assessment task relates to units 1 to 5.

Information for learners

Read this information carefully before you start the assessment.

To be awarded this qualification you must achieve a pass grade (P/M/D) in the external assessment task.

Your work on the external assessment task should **not** exceed 1500 words. Work that is more than 10% above this limit (1650 words) will **not** be marked. It is recommended that you make effective use of the full word limit to meet the requirements of the criteria.

You **must** work independently and all of the work in the external assessment task **must** be your own.

Any work that you have submitted for internal assessment **cannot** be submitted as part of your work for the external assessment task.

You can take any notes, materials and research produced prior to the external assessment into the **first** supervised session. You can also access these in the remainder of the sessions.

After the **first** session, you are **not** permitted to bring in additional notes, materials and research.

At the end of each supervised session, your supervisor will collect all external assessment materials, including notes, materials and research, before you leave the room. You **must not** take any external assessment material out of the room.

This material will be securely stored between supervised sessions, and you **will not** have access to the material outside of these sessions.

You **must** hand in the external assessment task as a whole piece of work and not in separate sections.

You **must** organise your responses to the criteria logically and identify the criteria that you are responding to – for example, P1, P2, M1, M2 – at the beginning of the section.

You **must** respond to each criteria individually. Do **not** combine criteria, as the external assessment task is not marked holistically. **If you combine criteria, you may be awarded a not yet achieved (NYA) grade for the external assessment task.**

Read the criteria carefully, thinking about your personal experiences in settings and what you have been taught. A short explanation is given for each criteria to show what is required.

You should think about the key words within each criteria to make sure that your information covers all essential points.

References **must** support responses given in each grade and should **not** be submitted as a separate criteria.

All criteria for a grade must be completed for the grade to be awarded.

You should **not** include appendices. These will **not** be marked.

You **must** use references in this assessment to support your understanding or to justify your comments.

- You **must** clearly show where sources have been used to support your own ideas and opinions to avoid plagiarism.
- You **must** clearly reference all sources used to support your own ideas and opinions, to make sure they are traceable.
- You **must** show quotations from websites in full, giving the date of access.
- Quotations **must not** be used to provide information in place of your own words.
- Quotations **must** be used within the text to support your own discussion and are **not** included in the word count.

If you plagiarise, you may be awarded an NYA grade for the external assessment task. For more guidance, refer to the Plagiarism Guidance Document located on the NCFE website and the JCQ Suspected Malpractice: Policies and Procedures located on the JCQ website.

Instructions for submitting your external assessment task

Before you hand in this external assessment task you should proofread it and make sure that:

- all information is focused on the requirements of each criteria and the title of the assessment
- information has not been repeated
- all quotations are identifiable and traceable.

You **must** produce your external assessment task in an electronic format, using black font, Arial size 11 to 14.

Clearly label each page of your external assessment task with your centre number, your name and your learner number. You must also number each page in the format 'Page X of Y', where X is the page number and Y is the total number of pages.

Please make sure that you have completed and signed the External Assessment Cover Sheet (EACS) and include it at the front of your external assessment task.

The external assessment task **must** be submitted to the supervisor in a single plastic sleeve, unstapled.

External assessment task title

Empowering service users

Grading criteria

	Grading criteria	Explanation
P1	Explain an individual's development or wellbeing within one life stage in relation to the title.	An individual's development or wellbeing within one life stage must be explained in relation to the title.
P2	Describe how one health and social care practitioner monitors the care needs of an individual in relation to the title.	The monitoring role must be described in relation to the title and the care needs of an individual.
P3	Describe how legislation and / or policies and / or procedures safeguard individuals in relation to the title.	Two examples of legislation and / or policies and / or procedures must be described in relation to safeguarding and the title.
P4	Explain the role of health education campaigns in relation to the title.	The role of health education campaigns must be explained in relation to the title.
P5	Include two traceable quotations that support your response to P grade criteria.	Two identifiable and traceable quotations must support the description and / or explanation.
	Learner check	P1, P2, P3, P4, P5 complete ☐
M1	Discuss the impact of advocacy for individuals in relation to the title.	Two or more impacts of advocacy must be discussed in relation to the title.
M2	Explain how informed care planning supports an individual in relation to the title.	The explanation must focus on informed care planning and demonstrate how planning ensures the health and social care practitioner can support an individual in relation to the title.
M3	Discuss how reflection and application supports the practitioner to maintain effective practice in relation to the title.	The discussion must focus on reflective practice and demonstrate, in relation to the title, how this can contribute to effective practice.
M4	Include two traceable quotations that support your response to M grade criteria.	Two identifiable and traceable quotations must support the discussion and / or explanation.
	Learner check	M1, M2, M3, M4 complete ☐
D1	Analyse the role of health education in promoting healthy lifestyle choices within one life stage in relation to the title.	An analysis of health education in promoting healthy lifestyle choices within one life stage must be demonstrated in relation to the title.
D2	Demonstrate wider background reading through the use of traceable quotations selected.	Wider background reading must be demonstrated through different sources and used appropriately.
	Learner check	D1, D2 complete ☐

This is the end of the external assessment task.