Unleash your limitless potential

Applied Prior Learning Policy

Approved/reviewed by	
Approved by Mr C Wilson Reviwed by Mrs S Wolverson	
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Introduction

This policy aims to provide guidance and clarity to Queensbury students and staff who are involved in Applied Prior Learning, also known as Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).

APL enables recognition of achievement from a range of activities using an appropriate assessment method.

APL may be requested by a student in relation to how they meet the criteria to one or more learning outcomes within a specific unit of learning. Alternatively, a teacher may apply APL through knowledge of the student and student's previous achievements.

Recognition of prior learning reflects the process whereby a student is eligible to receive recognition and formal credit for learning through past formal study and informal learning.

Prior Informal learning is learning gained through experience that has previously been unassessed and uncertificated, e.g. voluntary work, community activities, leisure pursuits and other informal learning experiences.

Prior Certificated Learning is learning that has been previously assessed in a formal learning environment. Previous certificated learning does not have to have been credit based but must have been at an appropriate level.

To **qualify for RPL** teachers can only give credit for where equivalence of learning outcomes can be demonstrated and not for the experience alone. Prior learning must also be of an equivalent level and volume. Teachers and students must in all cases present the evidence that learning has taken place and that equivalence can be demonstrated. Evidence of learning must be:

authentic,

relevant,

reliable,

sufficient,

valid

and verifiable.

All prior learning can be considered based on the learning being gained no more than five years previously.

Teachers will help and support students who ask for APL to be considered. It is expected that all claims to APL will be made before the start of the final taught criteria in any unit of work.

Recording of APL

Details must be given of the of the APL on a teacher witness statement (either letter headed paper or relevant Qualification paperwork dependent on the specification of the qualification), giving details of the evidence being used, how the evidence is being used and which criteria the evidence is being used from. This statement must be available for External Quality Assurance.

Appeals

Students have the right to appeal if a teacher deems APL cannot be considered for use for a qualification and the school's internal appeals policy will be followed