

## PGD Block Course 1 changes FAQs

### Q1. What prompted the shift from 3-days to 5 days?

**A1.** The decision to extend the duration of the block course was made following feedback from Industry. This included positive industry feedback around pilot testing of the extended block course and online induction.

### Q2. What's new and what are the benefits of the changes?

#### A2.

- **Learners will be better equipped for their learning journey early on** — Allowing 5-days for Block Course 1 will provide learners with a great start to their apprenticeship. They will receive a thorough introduction to the online portal which means they will be well placed when it comes to submitting assessments throughout their apprenticeship.
- **Dates of Block Course 1 will be known sooner** — Timetabling of Block Course 1 will be accurate and known much earlier than in the past. This is because there will no longer be prerequisites for learners to attend, so they won't need to wait for enough of their peers to become eligible for a block course to be scheduled. This is great news for learners and employers because they will be able to plan ahead for Block Course 1 with more confidence.
- **Learners likely to have completed block course within first four months**—Employers can take comfort knowing that learners are now likely to be able to complete Block Course 1 within the first 4 months of their apprenticeship.
- **Pre-requisites removed** — there will be no eligibility criteria or prerequisites required prior to a trainee being allocated to Block Course 1. The five theory units that learners used to do prior to attending Block Course 1 will now be thoroughly covered at the block course itself. These theory units are covered in the table below.
- **Five unit standards to complete on Block Course 1** - As there are no longer prerequisites, there are five theory unit standards that will now be taught on Block Course 1. These unit standards were undertaken by learners before they attended Block Course 1 in the past.

### Q3. Since there are no prerequisites, how soon can a learner be booked on Block Course 1?

**A3.** In most cases learners can expect to be booked into a Block Course 1 within three months of enrolment, depending on demand.

**Q4. What are the PGD Block Course unit standards?**

**A4.**

**PGD Block Course 1 Unit Standards**

<b>Practical Unit Standards to be delivered (taught, assessed and reported)</b>	
<b>Unit standard</b>	<b>Description</b>
25413	Draw and form simple patterns for Plumbing and Gasfitting sheet metal components.
<b>Theory Unit Standards to be delivered (taught and facilitated)*</b>	
21883	Demonstrate knowledge of working in gas contaminated environment in Plumbing, Gasfitting, or Drainlaying.
30596	Demonstrate knowledge of asbestos and safety measures for asbestos-related work.
21881	Describe ethical and legal considerations for Plumbing, Gasfitting, or Drainlaying services.
30536	Demonstrate knowledge of the regulatory framework for Plumbing, Gasfitting, and Drainlaying.
30532	Demonstrate knowledge of excavating and trenching for Plumbing, Gasfitting or Drainlaying.

\*Note that the theory unit standards were undertaken by learners before they attended Block Course 1 in the past.

**Q5. Are there still eligibility requirements for Block Course 1?**

**A5.** No, there are no eligibility criteria or prerequisites required prior to a trainee being allocated to a block course.

**Q6. When will learning materials on the My Portal e-learning Hub be available to trainees going into Block Course 1?**

**A6.** From when the learner signs-on. Also note that the assessments for the online theory will only be made available to the trainees one week prior to the beginning of Block Course 1.