

# Staying in touch



## Plagiarism in Education

Studying at this present moment in time is exciting. Learners have access to the most abundant and detailed resources at the click of a button. Whilst this can make finding information easier by having access to thousands of documents, rather than reading a vast number of textbooks and journal articles within a library setting. Rapid keyword scanning can speed up the search process, making online sites attractive research sources. However, this does bring the danger of copying another person's work, which is known as plagiarism.

Plagiarism may be accidental or intentional, but it is an academic offense that is subject to disciplinary action. Often plagiarism occurs because of a learner's inexperience in researching, reading, interpreting the information sourced, and writing this in their own words. Sometimes it occurs because a learner does not understand the subject matter. Occasionally plagiarism can be a deliberate act and a learner may submit another learner's assignment as their own.

The availability of e-publications and the recent development of artificial intelligence (AI) platforms such as ChatGPT is a significant concern to all of those involved in education, such as teachers, lecturers, and regulators. At Abbeydale, we are concerned about the presence of AI and the challenge that this poses for learners, tutors, and academic managers. Plagiarism is a significant and growing concern.

We have taken the decision to invest in Turnitin, plagiarism detection software, that will be integrated with our Moodle platform from September 2023. This software will help learners and tutors detect and check the originality of submitted work. Tutors will be able to review the work for any copied content, comparing it against all published texts in different file formats, internet sources, and previously submitted work. It will help tutors to grade, mark assignments accurately and help them to identify where learners are struggling to express or write their work.

This will allow tutors to focus on supporting learners. The software will also help develop learners' writing skills because they will be able to check their assignments for familiarity and originality before submission. This will help learners to understand how to write without plagiarism whilst protecting authors' intellectual property rights.



# LEARNER REVIEWS



## Contact details

Abbeydale's learner review officers are Mo Gwynne (English learners) and Juliet Whatley (Welsh learners).

They can be contacted on:

Mo Gwynne:

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or

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Juliet Whatley:

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or

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Learner reviews are an important and compulsory component of an academic program. The reviews support the learner to achieve academic compliance with planned targets (assignment and CSL deadlines). During the reviews, the reviewer will be supporting them to progress clinically and academically, whilst providing private and safe time to discuss any personal concerns that they have.

All learners are risk assessed/banded by Abbeydale tutors. If a student is considered to be low risk, they will be visited/contacted every 6 or 12 weeks. If they are considered high-risk, then they may be visited/contacted monthly. A learner may be considered high risk if they are significantly behind in their studies, have personal welfare factors that are of concern, or if there is a lack of clinical coach support in the workplace.

Learner reviews are also compulsory for the Welsh and English apprenticeship funding rules. The Welsh Government requires learners to have a review every 6 weeks and the Education Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) requires English learners to be reviewed every 12 weeks. The Welsh Assembly and the ESFA regularly audit these reviews. Failure by the learner or the employer to engage with these reviews can result in Abbeydale receiving sanctions for non-compliance. The sanctions imposed can range from a learner and/or Abbeydale having their funding contract terminated.

Recently Abbeydale learner review officers and tutors have had difficulty arranging these reviews with learners and employers. This has resulted in Abbeydale implementing a more formal system from September 2023 to reduce these issues. Please take a look at this procedure below.



- First review/appointment missed or cancelled.** The tutor/student is to rearrange the appointment time within 5 working days.
- Second appointment missed or cancelled.** Learner and employer are to be issued with a written warning, within 5 working days.
- Third review/appointment missed or cancelled.** The learner is to be issued an administration/missed tutorial invoice (£25). An appointment will be made immediately, and attendance will be mandatory.

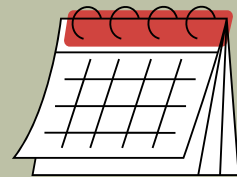


# Breaks in learning – Welsh learners

Sometimes during a learners' training program, there may be a requirement to have a break in learning. If a learner is in receipt of taxpayer funds to support the cost of the course fees, then the break must be compliant with the Welsh Governments apprenticeship funding rules and the reason must be one that is deemed appropriate. Maternity, health, termination of employment, and furlough are examples of appropriate reasons for a break in learning. The learner is permitted a break in learning for a maximum of 12 months. If the learner is still at work, Welsh Government is a little more reserved for learners to have a break in learning due to workload pressures. In accordance with the funding rules, it is not routinely acceptable to apply for a suspended period of learning where the learner is still at work but is struggling with the commitments of the program or employment workloads. Only in 'exceptional circumstances' and where both the employer and the learner agree, a learner who is still in employment may be suspended from their program for up to a maximum of 13 weeks. A learner is permitted one period of 'exceptional circumstances' suspension during the program. An example of extraordinary circumstances is an immediate family bereavement. The rules for breaks in learning differ for Wales and England, rules due to different funding rules. If a learner requires a break in learning, it is essential that this be discussed with Abbeydale as soon as possible to ensure that compliance with the funding rules is maintained.

## Important dates

- Summer break starts Friday 28th July 2023
- July written examination results published 23rd August 2023
- Autumn term begins Monday 4th September 2023
- Written exam week 10th – 13th October 2023



# Abbeydale

VET NURSE TRAINING

## Dates available:

- Tuesday 19th September  
6- 8 pm (in-person event)
- Wednesday 15th November  
6- 8 pm (online)

## CLINICAL COACH STANDARDISATION EVENTS 2023

ANNUAL UPDATE FOR CLINICAL COACHES

To reserve your space visit our website [www.vetnursetraining.co.uk](http://www.vetnursetraining.co.uk)