

APPRENTICESHIP WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

**Tackling the Urgent Need for More Industry Professionals in the
Apprenticeship Workforce – Creative Industries**

West Midlands Creative Alliance Collaborative Project

OCTOBER 2023

AWD Collaborative Research Project Resource

'Apprenticeship Essentials: What's Involved in' Series

A Professional Discussion

In a professional discussion, an independent assessor and the apprentice have a formal two-way conversation. It gives the apprentice the opportunity to demonstrate some of the knowledge, skills, and behaviours they have developed during their Apprenticeship.

The apprentice can refer to and illustrate their answers with evidence from their Portfolio. Quite often they will have already submitted this for the assessor to view (but not mark). This enables the assessor to gain an understanding of the apprentice's work context and helps them to prepare questions.

Whilst other end-point assessments will test specific knowledge, skills and behaviours, the Professional Discussion is generally intent on enabling the apprentice to relate them to their experience throughout their training period. Topics might include their professionalism and how they have worked within the wider organisation perhaps as a member of a team or in interdisciplinary situations; perhaps how they have approached and solved problems.

The Professional discussion will have a time limit and the assessor will pose questions on a range of topics to start and guide the conversation. It may take place online or face to face.

The video below is a mock Professional Discussion for the Level 7 Game Programmer Standard. Featuring one of their successful apprentices, it was recorded by Sumo Digital, an employer/provider in 2023.

It was recorded with the intention of being used as a resource for providers, end-point assessment organisations to support the training of industry professionals working as assessors or supporting apprentices during their training. It may also be useful to share with employers to further their understanding of what's involved in apprenticeships.



https://youtu.be/fgll_kDaCfl

Reference

The Sumo Digital Academy (2023), 'EPA Sample Clip' [online video]. Available from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fgll_kDaCfl [Accessed on 15 October 2023].

FUNDED BY



Department
for Education

APPRENTICESHIP WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT IS DELIVERED BY:

