

Revised professional requirements for Higher Level Teaching Assistants (HLTAs) in Wales 2011

Those awarded HLTA status must meet all of the following requirements.

Professional attributes
1. Have high expectations of children and young people and a commitment to helping them fulfil their educational potential.
2. Establish fair, respectful, trusting, supportive and constructive relationships with children and young people.
3. Demonstrate the positive values, attitudes and behaviour they expect from children and young people.
4. Communicate effectively and sensitively with children, young people, colleagues, parents and carers.
5. Recognise and respect the contribution that parents and carers can make to the development and well-being of children and young people.
6. Demonstrate a commitment to collaboration and cooperative working with colleagues and external agencies.
7. Improve their own knowledge and practice including responding to advice and feedback.
Professional knowledge and understanding
8. Understand the key factors that affect children and young people's learning and progress.
9. Know how to contribute to effective personalised provision by taking practical account of inclusion and, in particular, additional learning needs (ALN).
10. Have sufficient understanding of their area(s) of expertise to support the development, learning and progress of children and young people.
11. Have achieved level 2 (or above) of the National Qualifications Framework in English or Welsh (first language)/literacy and mathematics/numeracy.
12. Know how to use ICT to support their professional activities.
13. Know how statutory and non-statutory frameworks for the school curriculum relate to the age and ability ranges of the learners they support.
14. Understand the objectives, content and intended outcomes for the learning activities in which they are involved.
15. Know how to support all learners in accessing the curriculum in accordance with the special educational needs, the SEN Code of Practice for Wales, and disabilities legislation.
16. Know how other frameworks that support the development and well-being of children and young people impact upon their practice.
17. Understand the national education policy context in Wales and the Welsh Government's national priorities for education including Cwricwlwm Cymreig to inform and shape their practice.
18. Understand how the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Children and Young People's Participation Standards for Wales are used to inform and shape their practice.