PSF Review: Group Survey

Response ID	Completion date
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700-123	13 301	2022, 20.37 (B31)
1	I consent to participate in this survey.	Yes
2	Are you completing this survey on behalf of a:	Professional Organisation
3	Please provide the full name of the professional organisation or institution for which you are responding:	Staff and Educational Development Association
4	Please tell us the country in which your professional organisation or institution is based. Please select your country or nation from the list below:	England

5	Please indicate how your professional organisation or insititution uses the PSF:	Our recognition/accreditation services for institutions embed use of the PSF
6	Thinking about how the draft presents the Purpose of the PSF, are you:	dissatisfied
6.a	Please provide reasons for your response	We object to the first bullet point which, in its current form, implies an imposition of (UK-centric) values on local and global contexts. This is not appropriate for its use by other values-led organisations or by non-UK cultures. Our preference would be to omit this bullet point. If it were to be retained we would like to see the word 'benchmark' replaced by 'framework'.
7	Is the section entitled Structure of the PSF:	unhelpful
7.a	Please provide reasons for your response:	The role of the critical strands within the structure and their relationship with the Dimensions and Descriptors are not clear. However, we do welcome that the Professional Values are listed first within the Dimensions.
8	Is the representation of the PSF as an image (please see page 5 of the	unclear

Draft Revised PSF):

8.a	Please provide reasons
	for your response:

Whilst the Values are central, this representation is in a different order to the description above. If Areas of Activity are underpinned by Values and Knowledge then depicting this as per current UKPSF would be better. Any critical strands would be better represented as a single golden thread connecting other aspects rather than repeated in each dimension. Creating a balanced image of 5 items in each dimension leads to a contrived list in each at the expense of a more intuitive distribution.

9	From the consultation	
	data, three Critical	
	Strands have emerged:	
	inclusion, context and	
	effectiveness. When	
	using the PSF, are these	
	likely to be:	

not at all useful

9.a Please provide reasons for your response:

The overlap between 'inclusion' & 'effectiveness' and V1 & V2 respectively adds unnecessary duplication and complexity that had otherwise been nicely tidied up in this version. The point about context is very useful but could be included in an introductory paragraph about how to use the framework. From an accreditation perspective, the strands might feel like another 'box to tick'. We would prefer they were omitted entirely. If they are to be included they would be better titled as 'principles'.

10	Is the explanation of the	clear
	Dimensions:	

11	For each set of	helpful
	Dimensions:	
	Professional Values,	
	Core Knowledge and	
	Areas of Activity, a short	
	phrase has been	
	introduced to emphasise	
	the intention of each	
	Dimension (enact,	
	apply, demonstrate).	
	Are these phrases likely	
	to be:	

12	Please tell us your views on the proposed Professional Values:	
12.1		V1
12.1.a	Clear	clear
12.1.b	Useful in your practice	useful
12.2	V2	
12.2.a	Clear	unclear
12.2.b	Useful in your practice	useful
12.3		V3
12.3.a	Clear	unclear
12.3.b	Useful in your practice	useful
12.4		V4
12.4.a	Clear	clear

12.4.b	Useful in your practice	useful
12.5		V5
12.5.a	Clear	clear
12.5.b	Useful in your practice	slightly useful
12.5.c	Please provide reasons for your responses. Each answer should be no more than 500 characters	We welcome V5 but wonder whether it could inadvertently exclude e.g. those who work predominantly 1-to-1 or outside of an institution.
12.a	Is there anything else that you would like to add, remove or change in the Professional Values?	Yes
12.a.i	If 'Yes' please provide a brief description:	V2 and V3 potentially recreates the problem with old V1 and V2, namely these overlap (critical evaluation is part of evidence informed practice) – an example of where it feels contrived in an attempt to get a neat 3x5 framework. The framework includes no reference to student or staff wellbeing, which seems a striking omission given growing evidence of its critical importance in enabling successful learning; we encourage consideration of an additional or expanded value which encompasses this.

13	Please tell us your views on the proposed Core Knowledge:
13.1	K1

13.1.a	Clear	unclear
13.1.b	Useful in your practice	useful
13.1.c	Please provide reasons for your responses. Each answer should be no more than 500 characters	There isn't a clear understanding within psychology or cognitive/neuroscience of 'How learning occurs', therefore it is ambitious to expect individuals to be able to understand or articulate this. The previous 'How students learn' feels more comfortable and achievable. If the intention is to deliberately avoid the word 'students' then perhaps 'people' could be used or the phrase 'Concepts of learning'.
13.2		K2
13.2.a	Clear	clear
13.2.b	Useful in your practice	useful
13.2.b 13.2.c	Please provide reasons for your responses. Each answer should be no more than 500 characters	There is a duplication of V1 and the inclusion strand. The previous version of K2 worked well and could be retained.
	Please provide reasons for your responses. Each answer should be no more than 500	There is a duplication of V1 and the inclusion strand. The previous version of
13.2.c	Please provide reasons for your responses. Each answer should be no more than 500	There is a duplication of V1 and the inclusion strand. The previous version of K2 worked well and could be retained.

13.3.c	Please provide reasons for your responses. Each answer should be no more than 500 characters	This is uncharacteristically specific in that it starts to dictate curricula rather than generic approaches to teaching and supporting learning, and also risks excluding colleagues who may struggle to see how it can be applied in their context (e.g. some 'pure' disciplines in Becher & Biglan's typology such as maths or music). It should be omitted. If it needs to be specified anywhere, then it would be relevant to refer to it the separate guidance against V4.
13.4		K4
13.4.a	Clear	clear
13.4.b	Useful in your practice	useful
13.5		K5
13.5.a	Clear	clear
13.5.b	Useful in your practice	useful
13.5.c	Please provide reasons for your responses. Each answer should be no more than 500 characters	There is no one 'learning experience'. 'quality and enhance learning experiences' would be more inclusive.
13.a	Is there anything else that you would like to add, remove or change in the Core Knowledge?	Yes
13.a.i	If 'Yes' please provide a brief description:	See comments in table above.

14.1			A1
14.1.a	Clear	clear	
14.1.b	Useful in your practice	useful	
14.2			A2
14.2.a	Clear	clear	
14.2.b	Useful in your practice	useful	
14.3			А3
14.3.a	Clear	clear	
14.3.b	Useful in your practice	useful	
14.4			A4
14.4.a	Clear	clear	
14.4.b	Useful in your practice	useful	
14.5			A5
14.5.a	Clear	clear	
14.5.b	Useful in your practice	useful	
14.a	Is there anything else that you would like to add, remove or change in the Areas of Activity?	No	

15	Is the explanation of the	clear
	Descriptors:	

15.a	Please provide reasons for your response:	The description is clear and we welcome the new compact nature of the Descriptors
		which helpfully removes previous overlaps and duplications with the Dimensions.

16	Please tell us y	our views on the proposed Descriptor 1:
16.1		Introductory text
16.1.a	Clear	clear
16.1.b	Useful	useful
16.2		D1.1
16.2.a	Clear	clear
16.2.b	Useful	useful
16.3		D1.2
16.3.a	Clear	clear
16.3.b	Useful	useful
16.4		D1.3
16.4.a	Clear	clear
16.4.b	Useful	useful
16.a	Is there anything else that you would like to add, remove or change in Descriptor 1?	Yes

16.a.i	If 'Yes' please provide a brief description:	All of the Values are relevant at D1 and, when using the document to support career progression, we would want to emphasise all the values from day 1 of a colleague's career in teaching and/or supporting learning. Ideally, all should be included at D1 but at least V1 – V3 (though V2 and V3 could be merged as noted earlier).
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17	Please tell us y	your views on the proposed Descriptor 2:
17.1		Introductory text
17.1.a	Clear	clear
17.1.b	Useful	useful
17.2		D2.1
17.2.a	Clear	clear
17.2.b	Useful	useful
17.3		D2.2
17.3.a	Clear	clear
17.3.b	Useful	useful
17.4		D2.3
17.4.a	Clear	clear
17.4.b	Useful	useful
17.a	Is there anything else that you would like to add, remove or change in Descriptor 2?	No

18	Please tell us your views on the proposed Descriptor 3:	
18.1		Introductory text
18.1.a	Clear	clear
18.1.b	Useful	useful
18.2		D3.1
18.2.a	Clear	clear
18.2.b	Useful	useful
18.3		D3.2
18.3.a	Clear	clear
18.3.b	Useful	useful
18.4		D3.3
18.4.a	Clear	clear
18.4.b	Useful	not at all useful
18.4.c	Please provide reasons for your responses. Each answer should be no more than 500 characters.	This unnecessarily duplicates V3. It does emphasise that this Value applies to their leadership as well as to their teaching practice, but this could be highlighted in the introductory text (i.e. the reminder that all Dimensions should be considered in the context of leadership).
18.a	Is there anything else that you would like to add, remove or change in Descriptor 3?	Yes
18.a.i	If 'Yes' please provide a brief description:	Remove D3.3 (see comment in table above).

19	Please tell us y	our views on the proposed Descriptor 4:
19.1		Introductory text
19.1.a	Clear	clear
19.1.b	Useful	useful
19.2		D4.1
19.2.a	Clear	clear
19.2.b	Useful	useful
19.3		D4.2
19.3.a	Clear	clear
19.3.b	Useful	useful
19.4		D4.3
19.4.a	Clear	clear
19.4.b	Useful	not at all useful
19.4.c	Please provide reasons for your responses. Each answer should be no more than 500 characters	This unnecessarily duplicates V3. It does emphasise that this Value applies to their leadership as well as to their teaching practice, but this could be highlighted in the introductory text (i.e. the reminder that all Dimensions should be considered in the context of leadership).
19.5		D4.4
19.5.a	Clear	clear
19.5.b	Useful	not at all useful

19.5.c	Please provide reasons for your responses. Each answer should be no more than 500 characters	This unnecessarily duplicates A5. As for D4.3, the context specificity could be emphasised in the introductory text.
19. a	Is there anything else that you would like to add, remove or change in Descriptor 4?	Yes
19.a.i	If 'Yes' please provide a brief description:	Remove D4.3 & D4.4 (see comments in table above).

20	If a Student Descriptor were introduced, for students who support the learning of others, would this be:	unhelpful
20.a	Please provide reasons for your response:	Many institutions already use D1 (and, in some cases of experienced Graduate Teaching Assistants, D2) with students. The changes to the Descriptors' introductory nicely takes away reference to particular roles, thereby allowing the focus to be on what the individual does in practice. A separate Student Descriptor would be counter to this ethos.

21	If a glossary providing practical explanations of key words and phrases within the Framework were introduced, would this be:	helpful
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Please tell us anything else that you would like us to know about the draft revised PSF.

We strongly endorse the revised PSF remaining sector-owned via UUK & GuildHE. Relatedly we query the removal of 'UK' from the Framework – as the revised PSF makes clear, context is important and inescapable - 'UK' differentiates it from other frameworks globally and recognises the ethnocentricity of its origins. We object to all references to Advance HE Fellowship: other organisations accredit against the framework and it is inappropriate that one should be favoured; Advance HE should produce separate guidance on the relationship between HEA Fellowship and the framework. This draft contains grammatical inconsistencies which risk alienating colleagues: it will be important to rectify these.