



REHABILITATION WORKER (VISUAL IMPAIRMENT) Apprenticeship (ST0431)

The Role of the Rehabilitation Worker (Visual Impairment)

Essential components of the role.

Assessment: specialist assessment of a person's functional vision and the relationship of this to all aspects of daily life and its impact on any other disability the person may have; identifying strengths, needs and possible solutions; agreeing goals and an 'action plan' to achieve those goals.

Eye conditions: non-medical knowledge of eye conditions that can cause sight loss, in order to understand how those conditions may affect how a person uses their sight and the implications of their diagnosis for the future.

Low vision: specialist knowledge and skills in using low vision devices such as optical magnifiers, high-tech video magnifiers, computers and close circuit TV; the use of non-optical devices, and training a person to make the most of their vision by using specific sight strategies.

Orientation and mobility: working with people to increase their confidence to move around safely both indoors and outdoors; providing training in the use of mobility aids, such as white canes; route training in specific areas e.g. teaching the route to the shops or work; learning orientation skills to know where you are in your environment and to be able to interpret what the environment can tell you.

Independent living skills: developing a person's activities of daily living e.g. preparing and cooking meals and drinks; managing household tasks, such as laundry, cleaning, personal finances and money transactions; personal care, such as applying make-up, shaving, cutting nails and dressing; identifying and taking medication appropriately.

Communication skills: developing communication and information skills for a visually impaired person may involve using a number of formats such as print, audio or tactile systems like Moon or Braille. It may also encompass a number of platforms or settings including computer, tablet or smart phone with or without specialist access-software. Communication-skill development is of particular importance when working with someone who has dual-sensory loss.

https://www.rwpm.org.uk/core_skills (Nov 2021)

Vision Rehabilitation Training's Apprenticeship Training Programme

Over 20 Years' Experience - Our team have been involved in the training of Rehabilitation Workers for over 20 years. We have used our extensive experience of university and independent training to develop a New apprenticeship training programme that uses modern learning methods to deliver training that suits employee and employer's needs.

Course Content

The Rehabilitation Worker (Visual Impairment) apprenticeship, ST0431 is a ground-breaking standard developed by employers (a first in the UK) to provide a detailed description of what an employer requires of a practicing Rehabilitation Worker. This apprenticeship training programme strictly adheres to the content of the apprenticeship standard and in doing so ensures that the apprentice develops the Knowledge Skills and Behaviours their employer requires. Details of the apprenticeship standard and its content can be found at:

<https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/rehabilitation-worker-visual-impairment>

Course delivery

- All training staff are qualified and **practicing** Rehabilitation Workers, bringing the variety and reality of their day-to-day experience to their training sessions
- The course **duration** is 24 months (based on standard full-time employed apprentices)
- Based on a standard employment contract of 35 hours a week an apprentice will have 7 hours per week allocated to Off-The-Job training
- We have a **bespoke online training platform** for the apprentice to access their learning and to store all their work
- Utilising a 'tried and tested' **Active Learning** methodology, apprentices develop the practice skills they need to function as a proactive member of the team
- The apprentice is guided through the programme with **weekly worksheets** that develop their knowledge, skills, and behaviours
- Learning from the COVID-19 pandemic and to counter any future disruptions we have embraced **Video Conferencing and online learning** to deliver classroom training
- **Focussed face-to-face training** (London & Birmingham) to maximise the practical time spent together **no prolonged periods away from the workplace**
- A unique **Multiple Mentorship** approach enables us to relieve the burden of supervision but still ensure the apprentice has the experiences and support they need
- A detailed **Managers Brief** outlines the content and activities of each module. This handy document supports managers to keep-up-dated on their apprentices performance
- **Investing in Apprentices**, we provide all the online and printed literature the apprentice requires to complete their training

In Work Training – Apprentices are required to complete a range of activities that are common to the role of the Rehabilitation Worker. These placement style activities are distributed across the 24 months and ensure the apprentice develops the professional practice skills they require.

Standardisation – Our Apprentices are assessed by Occupational Awards Ltd. The End-Point-Assessment Organisation that assesses *all* Rehabilitation Worker (Visual Impairment) Apprentices.

Course Modules

The Apprenticeship training course is divided into 14 modules that are aligned with the Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours as defined in the Apprenticeship Standard.

RW Apprenticeship Training Schedule Year 1 – (Example)

Module Title	Weeks	Workshops	Tutorials
1 Vision 1 – Function and Process	7	3	2
2 Assessing the needs of People with a Visual Impairment	7	3	3
3 Rehabilitation Theory	7	3	3
4 Orientation & Mobility Skills and Techniques	14	5	4
5 Independent Living	7	3	3
6 Communication	7	3	3
7 Reflective practice	3		

RW Apprenticeship Training Schedule Year 2 – (Example)

Module Title	Weeks	Workshops	Tutorials
1 Vision 2 – Maximising Function	7	3	2
2 Orientation and Mobility in practice	8	6	3
3 Orientation and Mobility in complex environments	8	6	3
4 Rehabilitation Therapy	7	3	4
5 Contextual Person Centred Assessing	7	3	3
6 Communications & Technology	7	3	3
7 Assessment Preparation	2		

**Workshop attendance is mandatory and may be full or part days, delivered online or face-to-face (in London/Birmingham)*

**None-mandatory additional training sessions may be offered if required*

Entry Requirements – All applicants must be able to provide evidence of the following:

- Level 2 Maths (or achievement within the 24 months of study)
- Level 2 English (or achievement within the 24 months of study)
- A Rehabilitation Worker Apprentice Employment Contract
- An enhanced DBS Check
- The ability to deliver Rehabilitation Training, including Outdoor O&M Training and Kitchen skills
- The ability to manage their own safety and that of a visually impairment person in complex environments
- Access to IT Equipment and resources required to undertake online learning activities (*this is no more than the standard IT infrastructure normally provided by an employer*)

Application Process – upon receipt of an offer of Employment as an Apprentice Rehabilitation Worker

- The apprentice will be issued with an Apprenticeship Mapping Document – this will enable them to identify their previous relevant knowledge, skills and behaviours
- A Video 'Recognition of Prior Learning Assessment' will review the Apprenticeship Mapping Document and confirm the above entry requirements
- Employers will be issued with a standard ESFA Commitment Statement – Including details of the learners prior learning and the training plan
- Signing of Apprenticeship Contract and Commitment Statement

Contact us – To discuss any element of the course or to find out more, contact Dr Andrew Dodgson at andrew.dodgson@visionrehabilitationtraining.com