The UK Professional Standards Framework

for teaching and supporting learning

in higher education

2011

The Higher Education Academy

Distinction and Diversity in Higher Education
GuildHE

Scottish Funding Council
Promoting further and higher education

Department for
Employment
and Learning
www.delni.gov.uk

hefce
HIGHER EDUCATION
FUNDING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND

n u s
national union of students

Cyngor Cyllido Addysg
Uwch Cymru
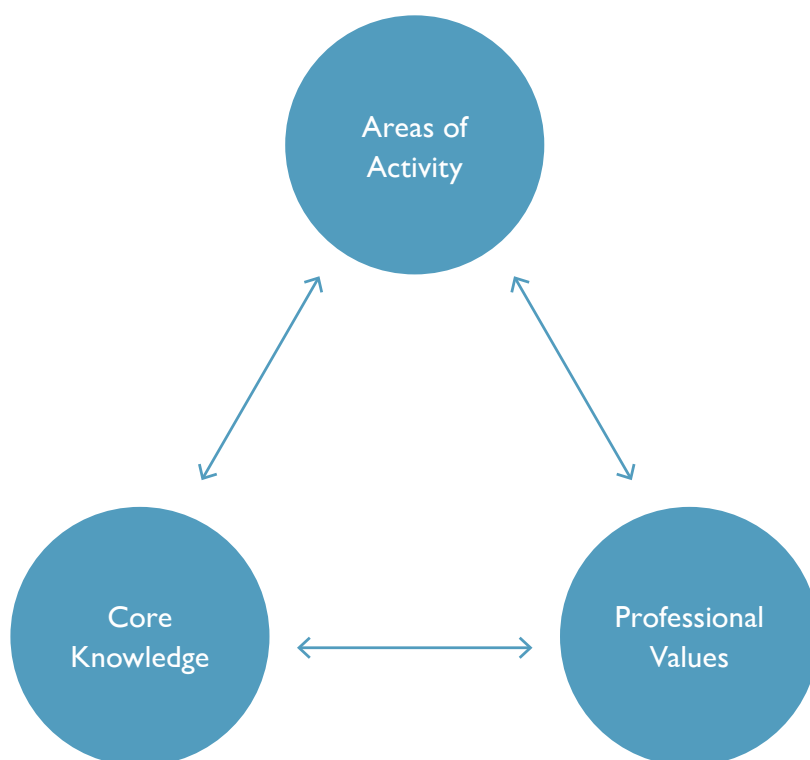Higher Education Funding
Council for Wales
hefcw

Universities UK

Aims of the Framework

The UK Professional Standards Framework:

1. Supports the initial and continuing professional development of staff engaged in teaching and supporting learning

2. Fosters dynamic approaches to teaching and learning through creativity, innovation and continuous development in diverse academic and/or professional settings

3. Demonstrates to students and other stakeholders the professionalism that staff and institutions bring to teaching and support for student learning

4. Acknowledges the variety and quality of teaching, learning and assessment practices that support and underpin student learning

5. Facilitates individuals and institutions in gaining formal recognition for quality-enhanced approaches to teaching and supporting learning, often as part of wider responsibilities that may include research and/or management activities

Areas of Activity

Core Knowledge

Professional Values

Dimensions of the Framework

Areas of Activity

A1   Design and plan learning activities and/or programmes of study

A2   Teach and/or support learning

A3   Assess and give feedback to learners

A4   Develop effective learning environments and approaches to student support and guidance

A5   Engage in continuing professional development in subjects/disciplines and their pedagogy, incorporating research, scholarship and the evaluation of professional practices

Core Knowledge

K1   The subject material

K2   Appropriate methods for teaching, learning and assessing in the subject area and at the level of the academic programme

K3   How students learn, both generally and within their subject/disciplinary area(s)

K4   The use and value of appropriate learning technologies

K5   Methods for evaluating the effectiveness of teaching

K6   The implications of quality assurance and quality enhancement for academic and professional practice with a particular focus on teaching

Professional Values

V1   Respect individual learners and diverse learning communities

V2   Promote participation in higher education and equality of opportunity for learners

V3   Use evidence-informed approaches and the outcomes from research, scholarship and continuing professional development

V4   Acknowledge the wider context in which higher education operates recognising the implications for professional practice