

Recognition of Prior Learning Procedure

Qualifications listed on the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) is made up of units. Each unit and qualification has its own level from Entry level to Level 8, which indicates the level of challenge and difficulty. Each unit and qualification has its own credit value which indicates how long it could take on average for a learner to complete. One Credit represents approximately 10 hours of Learning Time. Learners can build up their units at their own pace and put them towards a full qualification.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is a *method of assessment* [leading to the award of credit] *that considers whether learners can demonstrate that they can meet the assessment requirements for a unit through knowledge, understanding or skills they already possess and do not need to develop through a course of learning.*

Regulatory arrangements for the Qualifications and Credit Framework (Ofqual/08/3726)

Halifax Opportunities trust recognises that some learners may come to the centre with prior knowledge, understanding or skills that will meet the assessment criteria for a full unit of the qualification they wish to pursue without the need for further development through a course of learning.

During the initial assessment process the learner will be able to discuss any relevant prior learning with their assessor and evidence any prior achievement through the presentation of certificates of achievement. Factors to be considered in this process will include:

- When the prior learning took place – is the learning still current
- The Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria met – do they match the criteria of the new qualification – is it relevant
- Ability of learner to evidence achievement with certificate – is the certificate Reliable and Valid
- When making the decisions around recognition of prior learning, the assessor and candidate will discuss the currency of the prior knowledge and skills being claimed to ensure that all the criteria have been met.

Should there be any questions regarding the acceptance of RPL, HOT will seek guidance from the awarding body. Any agreed RPL will be noted in the candidate Individual Learning Plan.

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