

UNIT SPECIFICATION

Unit DK302 – Insights into Mobility and Implications for Communication with Deafblind Individuals

(QCF Unit Number: J/615/3444)

Unit summary

This unit provides learners with knowledge and understanding in relation to supporting all groups of deafblind adults (i.e. those born with dual sensory impairments) who use a wheelchair or mobility aids. It will focus on the impact, effective communication, accessing information, safe mobility, identifying mobility needs and the opportunities and challenges faced on a regular basis.

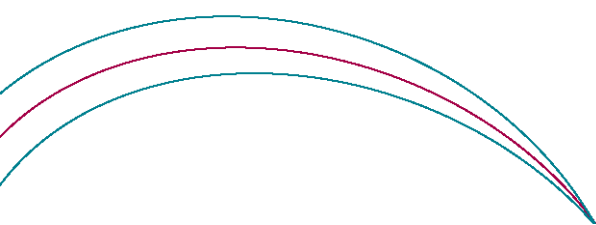
Guided learning hours	Additional study hours	Total learning time	Credit values at Level 3
20	10	30	3

Guided learning hours include assessment time.

Additional study hours include private study, homework, practice, etc.

Learning outcomes	Assessment criteria
On completion of this unit, learners will:	On completion of this unit learners can:
1. Understand a range of communication difficulties faced by deafblind adults when they are using a wheelchair or mobility aid.	1.1 Explain a variety of difficulties encountered in different situations by the four groups of deafblind people 1.2 Describe how these may be overcome

Learning outcomes On completion of this unit, learners will:	Assessment criteria On completion of this unit learners can:
2. Be able to manage factors to optimise successful communication and guiding when working with a deafblind wheelchair user, in any environment.	2.1 Discuss the limitations and boundaries faced 2.2 Describe the impact on the deafblind individual 2.3 Understand the perceptions of others and how socialisation and activities can be a challenge 2.4 Understand and apply techniques and good practice to ensure confidence, trust and respect to both parties
3. Understand the different mobility aids available	3.1 Discuss the different wheelchairs and mobility aids available and professionals involved. 3.2 Discuss the implications of communication and access to information
4. Understand how risk assessments can present challenges/opportunities	4.1 Detail assessment questions and risks involved with deafblind wheelchair users and discuss how these can be met.



Topic content

(See teacher notes on the Signature website.)

A: Difficulties with communication when working with a deafblind person who uses a wheelchair or mobility aid:

- Awareness of the issues for professionals
- Limitations and barriers relating to each of the four groups of deafblindness
- Importance of promoting good communication in variety of situations, including seating arrangements, using residual vision and/or hearing and enabling full participation.
- Effects and implications of working with family members/carers

B: The experience of deafblind adults:

- Individual factors including vulnerability/emotions
- Communication methods / tactics and preferences.
- Importance of access to Information (including environmental information - external and internal).
- Movement, Orientation and Mobility (internal and external environments) using a wheelchair or other mobility aids. Includes mental mapping, route planning, tactile sensory information, kinesthetic learning and guiding a deafblind person into/out of a wheelchair safely, use of seatbelts, etc.

C: Understanding mobility aids:

- Advantages / disadvantages of using a long cane, guide cane, walking stick or symbol cane, Guide Dogs/Dual trained dogs and implications of communication and access to information
- Red and White means deafblind – importance of the factors associated with this

D: Inclusion in the community:

- Environmental issues – external and internal.
- Social Interaction, activities and involvement
- Accessibility and the barriers

Perceptions of others

E. Promoting good practice

- Planning time, non-verbal directions, positioning, speed, stopping, kerbs, breaks, spatial awareness, muscle memory, permanent and temporary furniture, safety at all times, independent and enablement focused wheelchair users, emergency signal, luggage management, etc.
- Wheelchair and mobility aid management, specialists involved and risk assessments
- Importance of confidence, trust and respect when working with a deafblind wheelchair user or person using a mobility aid.
- Simulation experiences to demonstrate findings and recommendations.

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ASSESSMENT SPECIFICATION

Please read this specification in conjunction with Signature Assessment Regulations and Signature General Regulations on our website.

Assessment for this unit takes the form of a one hour written paper. The assessment paper will consist of structured questions on topics in the specification. All questions must be attempted.

The pass mark is 70%.

The assessment will be externally marked by Signature assessors.