

Practical approaches to working in partnership

Working with partners self-assessment

To help get you thinking about how well you currently work with partners, you can start by assessing what you do well and where you may look to improve. Rate yourself from 1-5, with five being strong in an area and one being an area in need of the most improvement.

Area of this resource	Statement	1	2	3	4	5
Partner relations	I know which individuals, organisations and networks can help me and my team achieve positive outcomes for the people we support.					
	I understand the characteristics of an effective partnership.					
	I have a good understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of my partnerships.					
	I have techniques that help me to manage and improve relationships in the context of a partnership.					
Your role, behaviours and responsibilities when working with partners	I understand my role as a leader when working in partnership and demonstrate these in my behaviour.					
	I have an understanding of how the Care Act requires different sectors to work together to improve the care of the people we support.					
	I know how the Care Quality Commission inspect for partnership working and how we evidence that we are doing so.					

Putting the people you support at the heart of partnerships	I can describe how partnership working leads to better outcomes for the people we support.							
	I can explain the importance of co-production, recognising the contribution and expertise of individuals, carers and families.							
	I can explain the importance of continuing an on-going dialogue with carers in meeting the requirements of people you support.							
	I understand the importance of integrating care systems and what my role is in this.							
							Total	

Score	Next steps...
11 – 22	You've identified a need to get better, but don't worry, there's ideas in our webinar and associated resources . In addition, our new guide for Registered Manager Members can help to improve your ability to work with partners. You might want to focus on an area of the guide you feel you need most improvement in, or simply work your way through from the beginning.
23 – 38	It looks like you have a good understanding of partnership working and are already capable of identifying, creating, and growing new relationships. It might be a good idea for you to think about our associated webinar or consider which section of the self-assessment you scored lowest on and head straight to the affiliated section of our new guide available to Registered Manager Members .
39 – 55	Remember, there's always more you can do to improve the strength of the partnerships you have in place and create new ones. Reflect on this webinar or refer to our new guide available to Registered Manager Members . Within the guide, you may want to go straight to Section 2, which has lots of useful exercises that you can do with your teams and partners. Alternatively, head straight to Section 5, which has useful tips and exercises to help you celebrate your role and how you work with partners.

This is an extract from Skills for Care's new "An introduction to working with partners – a practical guide for social care managers".

www.skillsforcare.org.uk/membership