

## **Updated guidance for HEIs relating to Covid**

The National Youth Agency (NYA), through its Education Training Standards Committee is the recognised PSRB for Youth Work, validating professional qualifications in youth work in England as agreed with the Joint Negotiating Committee for Youth and Community Workers.

The NYA has been closely following the impact of the Covid pandemic on students attending Youth Work courses, and would like to thank colleagues in the HEI sector for their successful efforts to keep these impacts to a minimum. We have now entered the next phase of, as far as is possible, living with the virus in circulation. The restrictions have been lifted and the NYA's guidance for Youth Services has been moved to "Green" status allowing sector providers to open without limitations on numbers or movement within the context of managing risk of community transmission where possible.

Correspondingly, ETS is revising its guidance to HEIs delivering Youth Work courses to reflect the updated guidance. From September 2021, any continuing student (those beginning their studies prior to Sept 2021) has to achieve a minimum of 75% of the required placement hours for those levels of study impacted by Covid, but an expectation that remaining placements are completed as validated - with an explicit requirement that no student can qualify without completing a minimum 75% of validated hours. In doing so, they must evidence meeting all Learning Outcomes / the NOS and any Subject Benchmarks that relate to placement. Learners commencing their studies from September 2021 will be required to undertake 100% of the required minimum placement hours – 800 for undergraduate courses and 400 for post graduate. This will remain the case as long as the NYA's guidance remains at "Green" level. Should this situation change the guidance for HEIs will be reviewed and appropriate adjustments made.