

**Unit AK2            Contribute to advances in the body of knowledge and archaeological practice**

**Elements**

**AK2.1    Contribute to advances in knowledge and theory which underpin archaeological practice**

**AK2.2    Exploit opportunities to broaden the public's understanding of the material remains of past communities**

**AK2.3    Enable others to learn and benefit from one's experience**

**Unit Commentary**

This unit deals with the continuing duty of the archaeologist to contribute to and challenge the body of existing knowledge on archaeological practice and to devise and validate new techniques; and to ensure that others benefit from ones own experience and knowledge.

## AK2 Contribute to advances in the body of knowledge and archaeological practice

### AK2.1 Contribute to advances in knowledge and theory which underpin archaeological practice

#### Performance Required

*This will involve:*

- a) accurately identifying inadequacies in current **knowledge and theory** of archaeological practice and justifying criticisms
- b) presenting clear and coherent proposals which describe and justify modifications to and advances in **knowledge and theory** of archaeological practice including key references and sources of information and support
- c) where proposals derive from a joint research, investigation or development initiative, identifying own role and contribution clearly in documentation presented
- d) supporting proposals with valid evidence based on rigorous and comprehensive research using appropriate methods
- e) inviting recipients of proposals to comment formally on the proposals and giving them opportunities to ask questions, challenge assumptions and findings and seek clarification

#### Occupational Context

##### 1 Knowledge and theory may relate to:

- purposes of archaeology
- policies on archaeology
- management of the archaeological process
- management of archaeological sites
- regulation and legislation relating to archaeological sites and objects
- archaeological interpretation
- archaeological techniques
- research techniques to support archaeology

##### 2 Sources of theories:

- books and research reports
- professional journals
- the curricula of learning programmes
- contemplation and reflection
- research
- observation
- discussion

#### Knowledge Requirements

*You need to know and understand how to:*

- Identify and summarise inadequacies of current knowledge and theory
- Develop and justify modifications and advances in knowledge and theory
- Conduct a programme of research

*You need to know about:*

- Current knowledge and theory in archaeological practice

## **AK2    Contribute to advances in the body of knowledge and archaeological practice**

### **AK2.1    Contribute to advances in knowledge and theory which underpin archaeological practice**

#### **Required Skills**

*You should:*

- Identify inadequacies in current knowledge and theory
- Present proposals
- Cite relevant references and sources
- Support proposals with valid evidence and arguments
- Verify that the collection and use of data complies with relevant legislation

#### **Evidence Required**

*You should provide evidence that you can contribute to advances in knowledge and theory which underpin archaeological practice*

The candidate should be questioned, based upon the documentation provided, to explore how they have:

- contributed to advances in knowledge and theory which underpin archaeological practice

Observation of the candidate or witness testimony will be essential as evidence of performance

Evidence must include defined inadequacies in current knowledge and theory identified and summarised and proposals for modifications to / advances in knowledge and theory

#### **Evidence Rules**

The candidate should have been involved in contributing to advances in the body of knowledge and archaeological practice

## AK2 Contribute to advances in the body of knowledge and archaeological practice

### AK2.2 Exploit opportunities to broaden the public's understanding of the historic environment

#### Performance Required

*This will involve:*

- a) Ensuring that **communication** is in an appropriate manner, level, pace, style and language for each target audience, to promote understanding and co-operation
- b) Ensuring that information communicated is accurate, legible, complete and understandable
- c) Ensuring that **feedback** is actively sought, recorded accurately and passed on to appropriate people promptly
- d) Where the feedback is critical, taking, or recommending positive action
- e) Respecting confidentiality
- f) Where there are barriers to understanding, providing alternative forms of communication
- g) Ensuring that presentation of information complies with organisational policies, and procedures and legal requirements

#### Occupational Context

##### 1 Communication

- use of correct terminology
- use of plain English

##### 2 Feedback

- formal/ informal
- written/ verbal
- documented/ recorded
- covertly communicated/ publicly announced

#### Knowledge Requirements

*You need to know and understand how to:*

- Communicate clearly and concisely
- Use proper terminology
- Accept feedback

*You need to know about:*

- The audience's level of knowledge
- The organisations policies, procedures and legal requirements

**AK2    Contribute to advances in the body of knowledge and archaeological practice**

**AK2.2    Exploit opportunities to broaden the public's understanding of the historic environment**

**Required Skills**

*You should demonstrate:*

- Communication: in an appropriate way for each target audience
- Presentation and interpretation

**Evidence Required**

*You should provide evidence that you can exploit opportunities to broaden the public's understanding of the historic environment*

The candidate should be questioned, based upon the documentation provided, to explore how they:

- exploit opportunities to broaden the public's understanding of the historic environment.

Observation of the candidate or witness testimony will be essential as evidence of performance

**Evidence Rules**

The candidate should have been involved in contributing to advances in the body of knowledge and archaeological practice

## AK2 Contribute to advances in the body of knowledge and archaeological practice

### AK2.3 Enable others to learn and benefit from one's experience

#### Performance Required

*This will involve:*

- a) identifying and agreeing individual and group learning needs and making adequate and appropriate **opportunities** available
- b) identifying, selecting and summarising relevant and up to date information in a format suitable for dissemination and the development of learning materials
- c) giving **learners** appropriate assistance, advice and coaching to enable them to identify their current level of competence and their key learning needs and targets
- d) selecting and applying appropriate **learning techniques and methods** which are suitable to the topic and the needs of learners
- e) providing information to **learners** in relevant contexts and presenting in a pace, style and form which is appropriate to the needs of the learner
- f) encouraging **learners** to ask questions, seek clarification and advice in situations where their current competence is inadequate to achieve targets and during learning activities
- g) regularly reviewing progress towards agreed objectives and giving **learners** realistic and positive feedback on their achievements
- h) identifying and agreeing areas in which **learners** require resources to achieve agreed competence levels and incorporating these into a development plan

#### Occupational Context

##### 1 Opportunities:

- paid time
- personal time
- office
- schools
- site, group and mutual collaboration

##### 2 Learners:

- colleagues
- trainees entering the profession
- junior colleagues
- students

##### 3 Learning techniques and methods may include:

- attending training and educational programmes
- coaching
- mentoring
- instructing
- agreeing work based learning opportunities

#### Knowledge Requirements

*You need to know and understand how to:*

- Identify adequate and appropriate learning opportunities and areas in which learners require resources to achieve agreed competence levels and produce development plans
- Identify, select and summarise relevant and up to date information
- Select and apply appropriate learning techniques and methods
- Advise and coach learners
- Present information in an appropriate pace, style and form
- Review progress and give realistic and positive feedback

*You need to know about:*

#### Resources

- Sources of relevant and up to date information to support learning needs

**AK2    Contribute to advances in the body of knowledge and archaeological practice**

**AK2.3    Enable others to learn and benefit from one's experience**

**Required Skills**

*You should demonstrate:*

- Evaluative and analytical skills
- Coaching
- Giving feedback

**Evidence Required**

*You should provide evidence that you can enable others to learn and benefit from one's experience*

The candidate should be questioned, based upon the documentation provided, to explore how they:

- enable others to learn and benefit from one's experience

Observation of the candidate or witness testimony will be essential as evidence of performance

**Evidence Rules**

The candidate should have been involved in contributing to advances in the body of knowledge and archaeological practice