

Personal and Social Effectiveness (PSE) qualifications – FAQs and answers

How long will my learners have to complete a PSE qualification?

Learners already registered for PSE qualifications and any further learners registered for PSE in academic years 2024-25 and 2025-26 have until academic year 2027-28 to complete a PSE qualification.

The last date when ASDAN can issue certificates for the PSE qualifications is 31 August 2028 in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and internationally, and 30 September 2028 in Wales.

All external moderation activities for these qualifications need to be scheduled to take place by 16 June 2028 so there is enough time to complete all necessary checks and administration before the final certification date.

Members delivering PSE qualifications will be sent reminder emails with key dates and ASDAN relationship managers will be in touch with members to make sure that everything is in hand for learners to achieve their intended qualifications.

When is the last date that I can register new learners for the Personal and Social Effectiveness qualifications?

You can register new learners for PSE qualifications right up to 31 August 2026 in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and internationally, and up to 30 September 2026 in Wales.

From September 2026, members will need to register learners for a different personal effectiveness qualification(s). ASDAN fully intends to continue offering personal effectiveness qualifications beyond 2026/2028 and will support its members to transition from PSE to the most appropriate alternative qualification(s).

What qualifications could I use instead of the Personal and Social Effectiveness qualifications?

ASDAN offers several alternatives to its Personal and Social Effectiveness qualifications, including:

- Certificate of Personal Effectiveness
- Award of Personal Effectiveness
- Personal and Social Development

Details of ASDAN's qualifications are available on the ASDAN website, and our relationship managers will be happy to talk to you about the best alternative(s) for your learners.

ASDAN intends to continue offering its Certificate of Personal Effectiveness (CoPE) and Award of Personal Effectiveness (AoPE) qualifications and will review them in 2024 to make sure they continue to

meet learners' needs. Any updates to these qualifications will be shared with members in time so they can update their teaching and assessment plans.

ASDAN fully intends to continue offering personal effectiveness qualifications beyond 2026/2028 and will support its members to transition from PSE to the most appropriate alternative qualification(s).

ASDAN will issue guidance on the use of Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for situations where learners have completed work towards a PSE qualification but transfer to a CoPE or AoPE qualification to achieve a personal effectiveness qualification.

Will ASDAN's other qualifications keep their existing format and specification?

Reviews of qualification specifications and formats are carried out within the periodic qualification reviews, to make sure that these still meet learners' needs.

Any changes to the specification and/or format of an ASDAN qualification, along with updated qualification resources, will be shared with members in time for them to update their teaching and assessment plans.

In the event that there are changes to a qualification specification and/or format, members will be invited to attend training where these changes will be discussed.

Why won't ASDAN be extending the Personal and Social Effectiveness qualifications?

Awarding organisations must review each of their qualifications on a periodic basis, to ensure that they continue to meet learners' needs and align to current standards. Qualification reviews take into consideration the performance and success of the qualification and how well they match any new standards or guidance set by the Department for Education (DfE). ASDAN considers that a number of aspects of the PSE qualifications have been successful but feels that it can improve further on its current personal effectiveness qualifications offer.

ASDAN fully intends to continue offering personal effectiveness qualifications beyond 2026/2028 and will support its members to transition from PSE to the most appropriate alternative qualification(s).

ASDAN will issue guidance on the use of Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for situations where learners have completed work towards a PSE qualification but transfer to a CoPE or AoPE qualification to achieve a personal effectiveness qualification.

Why do all ASDAN qualifications have final learner registration and final certification dates?

All regulated qualifications must have a lifespan with specified final learner registration and certification dates. This is so that qualification reviews take place in an organised and scheduled way. Reviews are intended to make sure that qualifications still meet learners' needs. Final learner registration and certification dates do not necessarily mean that a qualification is going to expire. It may be the case that the qualification is extended as it is, or an updated version is made available.

Awarding organisations carry out a review of a qualification in advance of its final learner registration date and will let their members know if there is likely to be any changes to the qualification in time for them to update their teaching and assessment plans.

Members are invited to contribute to the qualification reviews, so that their feedback on what works well and any issues or concerns they have about a qualification are considered when making any changes.

Qualification key dates, including final learner registration and certification dates, can be found on the information sheet available in the Overview section of each qualification webpage.

If you have any questions or concerns about qualification key dates, please contact qualifications@asdan.org.uk or your relationship manager.