

# Technical Skills Masterclass fact sheet

We stand for excellence in skills which we promote through our experience of international skills competitions, developing training methodologies which hone young people's technical and mindset skills to the highest level.

We have developed a series of learning and development resources to share this knowledge throughout the skills sector to push for higher standards in technical education and apprenticeships so that many more young people can benefit throughout the UK.

## WorldSkills UK Way

Technical

training

skills

Pressure

testing

training

Our training methodology is a continuous framework of improvement and professional development. It is the combination of training high level technical skills and applied principles of performance psychology in the context of technical and vocational education and training that forms our unique practice and underpins our international skills development programme which models global best practice in skills excellence.

Our programme consists of three components, all equally important to the overall skills development of students and apprentices.



#### **Technical skills training**

developing high levels of technical competence to perform against global vocational standards of excellence

#### **Mindset training**

supporting the acceleration of behaviours and attitudes, resulting in development of longer-term characteristics of positivity and proactive approach to challenge and pressure

#### **Pressure testing**

assessing an individual's behaviour and technical performance under pressure, in a simulated environment.

# In context of technical and vocational education and training

Our training methodology is not too dissimilar to what already happens across colleges and training centres across the UK. Our practice is built on training to higher technical standards, adoption of world-class best practice with a consistent flow of high pressure, underpinned by applied principles of performance psychology through our mindset development.

Tutorial Technical skills training care

> Assessment activity

## Technical skills development

Through our technical training we develop high levels of occupational expertise; equipping students and apprentices with the knowledge, skills and behaviours necessary to carry out complex tasks to high standards of technical competence and quality. From beauty therapy to welding, we train students and apprentices in agile and lean principles to teach the importance of efficiency, work organisation and waste management to encourage a continuous focus towards technical excellence and high quality.



## Developing Excellence framework

We facilitate technical training through our Developing Excellence framework. This framework underpins the process by which educators can embed the masterclass into teaching and learning environments as a continuous quality improvement tool, to stretch and challenge students and apprentices to higher levels of technical competencies promoting excellence in skills development.

#### 1. Engage standards

a clear understanding of what is expected of the student or apprentice and the standard at which they are expected to perform, behave or carry out a task

#### 2. Demonstrate

observing the desired process or outcome is an important part of this step to master techniques and / or practices

#### 3. Practice

carrying out the task to apply and adopt the demonstrated techniques and / or practices

#### 4. Assess

measuring performance against the standard through self-assessment using a marking scheme

#### 5. Reflect

looking back on the experience, reviewing successes, failures, re-setting and action planning next steps

#### 6. Feedback

two-way communication between educator and student or apprentice reviewing performance against the standards to support improved practice in future

#### 7. Repeat

developing technical excellence through practice of continuous improvement.





## **Technical Skills Masterclasses**

The Developing Excellence framework underpins the Technical Masterclasses for educators to easily embed and use with students and apprentices as a suite of lessons and tools to supplement formal and informal teaching and learning.

The Technical Masterclasses introduce students and apprentices to enhanced techniques and practices to help them build confidence and a new set of skills which will support them on their learning programme and benefit them as they progress into higher technical learning or employment.

The Technical Masterclass will cover a range of vocational areas with a focus on practical tasks we carry out with our Squad UK. The adoption of our framework provides a logical and continuous improvement framework to perfect the practical skills and build confidence in students and apprentices.

## Technical Skills Masterclasses will:

- 1. reflect on world-class standards to inform the practice of vocational teaching and learning for students / apprentices and educators
- 2. showcase excellence and build on ideas / practices from other countries.
- 3. introduce lean principles to improve efficiency, work organisation and waste management to encourage a continuous focus towards technical excellence and high quality
- 4. test and challenge a student / apprentices' ability to apply learning
- 5. aid practical problem solving and critical reflection on experience, including learning from mistakes in real and simulated settings, which are central to effective vocational teaching and learning.

## This will benefit educators by:

- supplementing formal and non-formal skills development
- fostering new and exciting levels of learning and development
- stretching and challenging students and apprentices to build confidence
- introduce new skills, techniques and / or practices
- support the development of a higher set of technical competencies and progression to higher levels of learning and attainment.

## Outcomes of the Technical Skills Masterclasses for students and apprentices

- gain new skills, techniques and / or practices
- experience the training that Squad UK undertake
- access different teaching and training styles to deepen understanding
- greater engagement through experiencing how others learn to master the technical skills required
- build wider awareness of standards in their vocation.

Each Masterclass is broken into several parts accompanied with an educator's activity pack to embed into teaching, learning and assessment practice.

## 1. WorldSkills Occupational Standards (included with permission of WorldSkills International)

The WorldSkills Occupational Standards (WSOS) specifies the knowledge, understanding, and specific skills that underpin international best practice in technical and vocational performance.

#### 2. Skill fact sheet

Provides an overview of performance from WorldSkills competitions and highlights which countries are leading the way in developing excellence in young people against the WorldSkills Occupational Standards.

#### 3. Task brief and marking scheme

Each Technical Masterclass will include a brief and marking scheme for a practical activity designed as 'stretch' for level 3 students and apprentices in a physical or virtual learning environment (if safe to do so).

#### 4. Infrastructure, health and safety

Outline of the equipment, materials and/ or consumables required to complete the task plus guidance on health and safety.

#### 5. Feedback and self-assessment

Templates to support with delivering high quality feedback and self-assessment.

#### WorldSkills UK Skills Development Hub

Our Skills Development Hub tools and resources are designed to support you in your extended teaching practice and to inspire and develop excellence in students and apprentices. Focused upon technical skills and mindset development the resources are easy to access and will support your curriculum delivery within a virtual or physical environment.

### **Explore our learning resources**

Stretch & challenge my learners technical skills	Support my learners become more confident and resilient	Embed competition into curriculum planning & delivery	Learn about global standards of practice from experts in different curriculum areas	Learn how to develop my coaching skills
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Developing Skills Excellence	Mindset Masterclasses	Embedding Competition Excellence	Centre of Excellence: transferring global best practice video and resource library	Coaching for High- Performance CPD
Resources	Resources	Resources	Resources	Resources
Technical Masterclasses				



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