SKILLS FOR CARE
INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMON CORE PRINCIPLES

Skills for Care has worked in partnership with Skills for Health to develop Common Core Principles for three areas that are critical to service delivery across health and social care sectors. These include:

1. **Self Care.**
2. **End of Life Care**
3. **Dementia**

The Common Core Principles documents are intended to be resources for reflection, challenge and practice change. They capture best practice in order to support service reform and promote choice, control, independence and participation of people who use services and their carers.
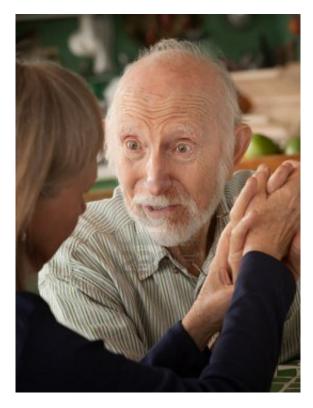
The Common Core Principles are underpinned by Personalisation and the national strategies for End of Life Care and Dementia.

They can be used as a tool for a number of purposes:

- Service managers may find them a helpful tool when they are considering developing services and practice as a way to ensure that workforce planning and development is integral to their activities. They are helpful in creating job descriptions and in defining new roles. They may also be a useful tool when redesigning services to provide a multi-disciplinary approach to care delivery.

- Workforce leads can use them to ensure that the opportunities they are providing meet the needs of workers. They are also a useful reference document to support workforce planning.

- Education and training providers should also use the Common Core Principles as a checklist for curriculum design and delivery, to ensure that the workforce has the required competences and attitudes to work effectively and that these are linked to wider nationally recognised standards and frameworks.

- Supervisors can use them to inform supervision, particularly for identifying learning and development needs of their staff.

- Workers may also use them individually to support the continuing personal / professional development.

- Commissioners may use them as an indicator or measure that the services or organisations they contract with have the necessary knowledge and skills to deliver a high quality service.

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The Common core principles to support self care aim to help health and social care service providers give people control over, and responsibility for, their own health and well-being, working in partnership with health and social care professionals. Consistent with the personalisation agenda they put people at the centre of the planning process, and recognise that they are placed to understand their own needs and how to meeting them.

For more information:
http://www.skillsfor-care.org.uk/develop-ing_skills/selfcare/self_care.aspx

The Common Core Principles and Competences for End of life care form a common foundation for all workers whose work includes care and support for people approaching, and at, the end of their lives whether their primary involvement is health care related or social care and support. They do not replace those occupation – or service-specific standards and competences already in place: they are designed to be used alongside these, ensuring that all services are tailored to meet the needs of people at the end of their lives.

For further information:
http://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/developing_skills/endoflifecare/en-doflifecare.aspx

The Common Core Principles for Supporting People with Dementia enable health and social care practitioners to respond in a timely and appropriate way to the needs of people with emerging signs of dementia as well as to those with a confirmed diagnosis of the condition. They are also a central element in supporting organisations to implement their local dementia strategies and plans.

For further information :
http://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/de-veloping_skills/dementia/support-ing_people_with_dementia.aspx

CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

- Hilary Kenny Skills for Care

Email:
Hilary.Kenny@skillsforcare.org.uk