



Dudley NAAS Preparation Guide

**A Resource for Children and Families Practitioners and Supervisors
undertaking their NAAS Assessment**



What is the NAAS Assessment?

NAAS is a voluntary accreditation for Child and Family Social Workers and Practice Supervisors.

- It allows Social Workers to demonstrate their expertise against the Knowledge and Skills Statements (KSS);
- A tool to enhance professional development, expertise and knowledge – we want our Social Workers to practice with pride and confidence.
- Delivers a national benchmark of good practice;
- Provides families access to expert, high quality support and protection.

What do I need to take with me to my assessment?

- Proof of ID.
- Proof of HCPC Registration – You can take a printed email with proof of your registration or a screen shot of Social Work England Register/your Account once logged in (**Your HCPC Number must be visible**).
- Login details for your NAAS Online Portal – this can be reset on the day if you have forgotten.

What will the Assessment Day be like?

Registration

Provide your ID and Proof of HCPC to the NAAS Facilitators.

Hand in any phones, tablets, smart watches etc.

Depending on the amount of attendees at your assessment time, you *may* be offered reduced breaks to allow for an earlier finish – **this is your choice!**

Practicing on the NAAS Online Portal

You will be given the option of completing the Practice Questions via your NAAS Online Portal so that you can familiarise yourself with the system. These are the same questions as the Example NAAS Questions that have been provided to you (Link provided at the end of this guide).

Knowledge Assessment

You will begin your NAAS Assessment by completing a Knowledge Assessment; you are given 1 Hour to complete this and all questions are multiple choice. The assessment is made up of 30 Questions, 18 are General Knowledge and 12 questions are Applied Knowledge.

The General Knowledge questions apply to all candidates regardless of which NAAS Pathway has been selected (Practitioner or Supervisor).

The Applied Knowledge questions are specific to the selected NAAS Pathway.

The questions either have **one correct answer or three** to be selected. This works out to **two minutes per question**.



TIP – Read all of the questions carefully to be sure of what you are being asked and how many answers you have to provide



TIP – There is a ‘flag button’ which will highlight any questions that you want to come back to or haven’t answered yet so you can review them before you submit your completed assessment.

Break

Two Practice Simulations - 15 Minutes Each

The NAAS Assessor will provide you with an overview of this part of your assessment.

You are given 15 Minutes of preparation time **before both simulations** to read the scenario for your simulation and makes notes (you can refer to these notes in the simulation to help guide your thoughts).

This part of the NAAS Assessment is recorded, however, the way in which the room is laid out means that you cannot see your Assessor during the simulation.

You can make notes during the simulation based on the scenario to help you remember specific details.

The Assessor will give you a **5 Minute Notification** towards the end of both simulations.



TIP – Write down the Start Time of your simulations so you can better keep track of your time.



TIP – Within these simulations it is useful to think about; Risk Assessing, Containing the Risk, Coaching and Action Planning.

Role Play Examples

These were two simulation examples given to staff undertaking the NAAS Practitioner Assessment on January 17th 2020.

Simulation 1

You are covering a Social Worker who is on Annual Leave. There is a 7 year old boy, named Simon and he is on a Child Protection Plan due to concerns of domestic abuse between his parents, Anna and Graham. This incident resulted in Anna requiring medical treatment. There was an ICPC and the recommendation is for

Anna and Simon to live separately from Graham and for Simon to have only supervised contact with Graham in a Contact Centre.

Simon's teacher has sent an email to Children's Services informing that she saw Anna and Graham together outside the school gates. You meet with Anna to discuss the concerns.

Simulation 2

You are temporarily allocated a case because a Social Worker is on long-term sick leave. The child is a 2 year old, named Amy. There is a 6 month chronology provided which shows some occasions where things were going well and mother, Marianna is parenting Amy well. There are some instances whereby Marianna is not present for an arranged visit and she did not attend the last Child in Need Meeting for Amy. When Amy was last seen by a Health Visitor one month ago, she appeared withdrawn and was not making eye contact.

Marianna's Care Co-Ordinator, Julie is concerned that Marianna might be pregnant but when she last saw her she was wearing a baggy jumper. Marianna has a diagnosis of Paranoia and she has recently asked to come off her medication. You meet with Marianna to discuss the concerns.

Reflective Exercise

There is no break between the Practice Simulations and the Reflective Exercise.

The Reflective Exercise is also recorded.

You are given **15 Minutes preparation time** and you are able to keep your notes in front of you when answered the questions.

There **are 2 Questions** based **on both practice simulations**.

Reflective Question Examples

These are two Reflective Questions given to staff undertaking the NAAS Practitioner Assessment on January 17th 2020.

- 1) What were the risks? How did you address this? How high is the risk? Why?
- 2) What theories, methods or approaches did you use? What worked well? What did not work well? What would you change?



TIP – It is useful to think about what models, methods and approaches you are more comfortable with and why you use these, i.e. Restorative Approach, using High Challenge and High Support with service users.

Break

Written Assessment

You are given 30 minutes to complete this assessment.

You will do this assessment on the NAAS Online Portal.

This may be a case note recording or an email and is **always based on the second simulation**.

You will keep your notes from the simulations that you can refer to in the Written Assessment.

Written Assessment Example

This is one example given to staff undertaking the NAAS Practitioner Assessment on January 17th 2020.

Record a case note based on your second simulation which consists of the following

- Outline of your discussion
- Risks and Strengths identified
- Analysis
- Plan



TIP – Keep an eye on your time in this part of the assessment, it goes very fast!

Feedback

You will be asked to provide feedback on your experience of the NAAS and the way in which the day was ran. This takes 5 minutes.

End of NAAS Assessment

What happens after my NAAS Assessment?

It will be a maximum of 30 working days before you receive your results from the Assessment Day. You will have either met or unmet the Post Qualifying Standards (Knowledge and Skills Statements). You can retake the NAAS Assessment once.

You will be sent a NAAS Reflection Template following your assessment. This enables us to gather feedback from practitioners and supervisors about their experience of the NAAS and helps to identify any themes from the assessment days.

What happens if I have met the Post Qualifying Standards and pass my assessment?

Having now undertaken your assessment you will receive a £200 gift card of your choice, regardless of the outcome of your assessment. You are now an Accredited Social Worker, congratulations!

What happens if I do not meet the Post Qualifying Standards and do not pass my assessment?

The results from the NAAS do not have implications on your current employment.

The NAAS Assessment is not mandatory, so you do not have to retake if you do not want to. Should you choose to retake your NAAS Assessment you will receive one to one mentoring from the Centre of Professional Practice and you can attend NAAS workshops.

Where can I access further information about the NAAS?

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/naas-toolkit>

I am interested in undertaking the NAAS, who should I contact to express my interest?

All expressions of interest can be forwarded to Ryan Gale, NAAS Co-Ordinator or emailed to the Dudley CPP email address: CPP@dudley.gov.uk