

# *return* to SOCIAL WORK

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:  
RETURN TO SOCIAL WORK PROGRAMME

## Frequently asked questions

### 1. I have not practiced as a social worker for over two years; how do I get back on the register?

If you left the social work register between two and five years ago, you will need to show [Social Work England](#), the specialist regulator, that you have spent at least 30 days updating your skills, knowledge and experience.

If you left the register more than five years ago, you will need to show that you have spent at least 60 days updating your skills, knowledge and experience.

A day is defined as a minimum of seven hours.

The 30 or 60 days do not need to be continuous, but they must all fall within the 12 months leading up to the submission of your application to be restored to the social work register.

You can use the following three methods to update your skills, knowledge and experience:

- training
- placements
- private study

Please note, private study cannot make up more than 50 per cent of the required knowledge updating period. This means that you can undertake private study for up to 15 days if you are completing a 30-day period, or 30 days if you are completing a 60-day period.

For more information about returning to practice, read [Social Work England's restoration guidance](#).

### 2. Where is the training taking place?

The training is taking place fully online, which means you can complete it from the comfort of your home.



### 3. How does this programme enable me to meet Social Work England's requirements to be restored to the register?

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A day is defined as a minimum of seven hours.

To enable you to meet these requirements, the Return to Social Work programme will provide you with:

- Induction: two hours
- Coaching: four, one-hour sessions (half a day)
- Action Learning Sets: five, one-hour sessions (one day)
- Group reflective supervision: five, one-hour sessions (one day)
- Learning and development workshops provided by Making Research Count: Six, one-hour sessions (one day)
- Private study days: 15 or 30 days, depending on how long you have been out of practice for.
- E-learning, webinars and research: seven hours, spread out over the course of the programme.
- Work experience: between 10 and 20 days, depending on how long you have been out of practice for. Your work experience will be used to evidence how you have met Social Work England's Professional Standards. It can take place within a council or in a setting where you can use your social work knowledge and skills. Either option must be supervised by registered social worker.
- Evaluation: 2 hours



Each online webinar will direct you to complete up to up to two hours of additional directed study, which can be used as part of your private study days. We suggest that you allow one hour of directed study before each online webinar, and one hour of directed study after each webinar.

The amount of time that each person takes with regards to preparation will of course vary. If you take longer than one hour, please record the exact amount of time you spent in your activity log.

Private study also includes activities such as reading an article or writing your reflective log.

#### 4. How do I access the online learning?

Most of the training is classroom-based and will take place on an online platform called Zoom. You can find the links to register for these sessions in your group timetable. When you register for each session, you will receive an automatic email confirmation with a link that you can use to access the session just before it commences.

If you are new to using online platforms, you can find our Zoom user guide in the 'Overarching Course Materials' section of the learner area.

#### 5. I have additional learning needs; how will these be met?

If you have any additional requirements to enable your full participation in the programme, please [discuss these with the Ongoing Learning and Development Manager](#) or the [Programme Administrator](#) to explore how you can be supported.

#### 6. What if I can't attend all the dates in the programme?

In order to re-register with Social Work England you will need to complete the required number of days.





**8. If I am in a job already where I can get some practice experience, can I use that towards my placement days?**

If you are in a job that enables you to gain the practice experience you need to meet Social Work England's restoration requirements, you will need to [discuss this with the Return to Social Work Team](#) at the LGA. Supervised practice must be provided by a qualified social worker who is registered with Social Work England.

**9. Will I get a job at the end of the programme?**

We cannot guarantee a job at the end of the programme. However, we will offer you coaching and mentoring to help you prepare for applying for work and re-registering with Social Work England.

