Why do GSF?
Providing quality care is key to the new Care Act 2014 and to the new CQC inspection process. GSF helps improve quality by promoting:

- Quality improvement – through training
- Quality assurance – through accreditation
- Quality recognition – Quality Hallmark Awards

What makes GSF training good value?
- The GSF Quality Hallmark Award is a ‘kitemark’ for quality in this sector, recognised as a marker of excellence by CCGs, LAs and the public, who often seek Accredited care homes for their relatives.
- It enables quality care throughout the person’s stay not just at the end, ensuring excellence throughout.
- GSF helps homes meet local and national policy standards, whilst also empowering all staff in the home leading to higher morale and better staff retention.
- The cost for the whole home equates to the cost of one resident in a home for 1-2 weeks.
- The strong evidence base and feedback from care homes for over a decade proves its effectiveness but also helps enable further improvements.

The GSF Programme is fully resourced with a medley of tools, guidance and learning materials plus interactive workshops to embed best care leading to accreditation and the well recognised Quality Hallmark Award.

What is the impact of GSF?
- Better quality of care
  Better experience of care for residents/patients by improving staff skills and confidence.
  “GSF has made my work simpler, drawn me closer to residents and relatives and given me confidence in discussing end of life care.”
  Care Home GSF Lead Nurse
  “Communication is so much better since GSF was introduced, I am involved in my friend’s care and my opinion is asked. Her spiritual needs and emotional well being is being fulfilled, she is being looked after and cared for on all levels.”
  Friend of a resident of an accredited care home

- Better coordination of care
  Better communication, coordination and integrated cross boundary care.
  “Consistency and quality run like a theme through GSF. This work must not be diluted or dismantled. We highly recommend using GSF for Care Homes, and the quality assurance process, and we enthusiastically support its use across the whole country.”
  Martin Green, Chairman – Care England

- Better outcomes for people
  Enabling more to live well and die well in the place and manner of their choosing.
  “It is so fantastic to see good theoretical policies put into practice and I want you to know that your framework really has made a difference... Dad died with dignity, pain free, able to stay in his ‘home’ surrounded by his things and looked after by people that cared and who knew him well. We could never have asked for more than that.”
  Relative of a resident who died in a GSF Accredited Care Home

Our new learning options for the programme will:
1. Enable any care home who wishes to complete the GSF training to do so in different ways.
2. Ensure that ‘gold standard’ care becomes standard care in all care homes through accreditation.
3. Encourage integrated cross boundary care through use of GSF in other settings, creating a common language of end of life care with patients at the heart. For other programmes see the GSF website.

Why do it, how to do it and what the benefits are for you and your home

The National Gold Standards Framework Centre in End of Life Care
The leading UK provider of training and accreditation in end of life care for generalist frontline staff

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“GSF helps you provide the evidence you need to excel in CQC inspections”
Mandy Thorn, Director, Marches Care
Vice Chair NCA
GSF in Care Homes

Since 2004, GSF has been recognised as the leading provider of training in End of Life care for care homes. Thousands of care homes have undertaken GSF training from all across the UK and about a million residents and their families have benefited from improved ‘gold standard’ care, helping them to live well and die well in their care home. GSF helps:

Quality improvement – training and educating staff
- almost 3000 care homes trained, a quarter of all nursing homes, reaching around 200,000 staff.

Quality Assurance – Accreditation and Quality Hallmark Award
- Several hundreds of homes have been accredited and hundreds reaccredited three years on, proving practical sustainability.
- Accredited homes receive the GSF Quality Hallmark Award endorsed by all major care provider groups – Care England, NCA, NCF, RNHA.

Quality Recognition – recognised excellence in care
- GSF Accredited homes are recognised by local commissioners and nationally by CQC, NHS Choices and carehomes.co.uk as being kitemarks for quality in providing outstanding care.
- GSF helps deliver evidence for CQC inspections, providing the essence of the Care Act in practice.
- GSF is recognised in other settings, helping to develop a common vocabulary in cross boundary care, reduce inappropriate hospital admissions and enable more to live and die where they would choose.

Developing a national momentum of best practice

GSF can be transformational in helping to change the culture of the home. GSF includes care for all people nearing the end of their life, affecting the care from the minute a resident comes into the home not just care in the final days.
- Following the success of GSF in care homes, we wish to spread this even further to create a ‘national momentum of best practice’ in all care homes, raising the standard of care for every resident.
- We now have 5 ways of learning GSF to suit different needs and budgets, with more rapid cost effective models for those already well developed.
- We launched the GSF National Ambassador Network in October 2015 at the House of Commons celebrating this excellent practice from all settings. Membership is rapidly growing and we will be holding annual networking events.

NEW National Network of Ambassadors

GSF Ambassadors from accredited homes sharing best practice, supporting each other, showcasing examples of best practice, improving success with local support and buddying and speaking with a louder voice together.

NEW Flexible ways of learning

New GSF Care Homes Learning options include:

1. The Premium Gold Programme
   The original full training programme with six interactive workshops, plus the filmed programme for easier cascade.

2. Foundation Level – Silver
   GSF principles for those not ready for the full programme. This step-by-step approach, with two workshops and homework, supports homes that later wish to progress to full training and accreditation.

3. Blended Learning
   A ‘blended’ approach to include interactive workshops and in-house sessions, offering a flexible and cost effective training package for facilitated commissioned groups.

4. Fast Track to Accreditation
   Tailored programme for those who have already undertaken some training, to assess progress and support them to achieving accreditation of the quality hallmark award.

5. Refresher Workshops
   Tailored refresher workshop or the filmed programme as a refresher for previously trained care homes.

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