



Benefits of GSF Accreditation and Re-Accreditation

How the GSF Care Homes Training Programme helps you deliver quality care

The **GSF Care Homes Programme** is ambitious, challenging, exciting, and one of the biggest quality improvement initiatives in end of life care in care homes. Since its launch in 2004, over 3,000 care homes have been trained and almost 800 homes have been accredited. Many have progressed to re-accreditation, with some care homes now fourth time accredited 12 years since completing the programme, demonstrating its long-term sustainability. GSF training greatly improves the skills of your staff, in a transformational programme that enhances:-

- Staff skills and confidence, leading to better working with GPs.
- Care given to residents and families as they approach the last stage of life, enabling more to die at home.
- The reputation of your care home locally and nationally - enhancing your CQC rating.



The GSF Quality Hallmark Award is recognized as a kitemark of quality

GSF Accreditation with the GSF Quality Hallmark Award is endorsed by the four major care homes organisations: Care England, NCA, RNHA and NCF, and other major policy groups and CCG commissioners. GSF Accreditation is recognized by CQC, **and many CQC care homes rated as Outstanding or Good are GSF accredited homes**. The Award plaque displayed at your home, and use of the GSF logo on your website, helps your care home stand out and makes it more appealing to relatives and also reassures GPs and commissioners.

How GSF Accreditation helps your care home stand out

- GSF helps you evidence your achievements, progress, audits and best practice for CQC and other inspections.
- Certificates and plaques can be displayed (valid for three years) and the database is regularly updated.
- Re-accreditation after 3 years help demonstrate sustained quality care.
- Repeated audits and updating portfolios show on-going reflective practice and continued development.
- Care Home Ambassadors and Frontrunners - an opportunity to be recognized nationally and support others at workshops and conferences, and being included in national publications such as GSF Frontrunners.
- **The GSF Award is even more important with NHS England's focus on Enhanced Health in Care Homes EHCH.**
- **Don't miss out on the opportunities this brings of being recognised - people do look this up!**
- **GSF homes are mapped on the GSF website <http://www.goldstandardsframework.org.uk/accredited-care-homes>**

Quality Improvement

Quality Assurance

Quality Recognition

"Care home residents and their families want compassionate, personalised and proactive care. The GSF is a fantastic resource to help the care home workforce provide this. Every home that receives the GSF Quality Hallmark Award should be proud they have proved their residents are receiving that quality of care in the place and manner of their choosing,"
Liz Jones, Policy Director of National Care Forum.

"Since we started practising GSF, it's given us confidence and being accredited has made us proud. The public have acknowledged how important this accreditation is when they are choosing the home for their loved ones. Not only do they have confidence in us, but other professionals also expressed their positive attitude of the high standard of care we are providing," **Rekha Govindan, Chegworth Nursing Home**

'Keeping the gold, gold'

Ten reasons to renew your GSF accreditation every 3 years

1	The GSF Quality Hallmark Award is a chance to be part of a national momentum of best practice endorsed by RNHA, ECCA, NCA & NCF and is recognized by CQC, NICE and commissioners as a quality kitemark - but only for its 3-year duration. It's even more relevant and important with EHCH and the recommended improved working with GPs.
2	Quality Recognition Databases - Only organisations with a valid accreditation are included in the national database of GSF accredited homes and sent to CCGs, NHSE and CQC and publicly available on the website providing members of the public and commissioners with the ability to check accreditations are valid.
3	CQC uses GSF accreditation as part of the process of Quality and Risk Profile pre-inspection and recognition of excellence. Objective and independent quality assurance helps represent your care home well and supports its recognition as a top quality home.
4	GSF leads to enhanced skills of staff , improvements in knowledge, awareness and confidence as well as boosted morale and increased staff retention. Skills are transferable to other areas and teamwork improves, with better collaboration with GPs.
5	Publicity - Our PR adviser will produce a press release for national and local use. This can be sent to your local paper along with a photo of you receiving the award, leading to greater local publicity and increased profile in the community.
6	GSF Accredited Homes can use the GSFCH logo on their stationery, promotional material and website etc., (subject to copyright terms of use) and prominently display the plaque. Many have GSF information boards for relatives and residents, as well as for staff.
7	Further Training - Access and reduced subscription (20% reduction) for other education courses e.g., Foundation Clinical Skills Course for Care Homes staff, Dementia Care course and others on DVD and on the GSF Virtual Learning Zone.
8	Updates on resources and events - You will receive newsletters, information about upcoming events, conferences and updated resources plus an opportunity to put forward your examples of good practice for showcasing in publications and events.
9	Joining a Community of best practice - With other GSF frontrunning teams in hospitals and the community, demonstrating excellence as national exemplars of best practice, you can continue to improve the quality of your integrated cross-boundary care.
10	Ambassadors and Frontrunners - supporting others to develop best practice and representing us as GSF Ambassadors, helping and supporting other homes going through the programme and speaking at workshops as GSFCH ambassadors.



For further information contact the Gold Standards Framework Centre
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