
Overview

This standard is for archaeologists who undertake the analysis and interpretation of archaeological material and data. This work may be undertaken as part of a research project or be guided by a research framework but it is also relevant to any other circumstances where analysis and interpretation of archaeological material and data are required. It will cover data sets such as primary excavation records or SMR records and materials including historic documents, artefacts, and palaeoenvironmental assemblages.

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Undertake analysis and interpretation of archaeological material and data

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

Confirm requirements for analysis and interpretation

- P1 Accurately identify requirements for analysis and interpretation
- P2 Identify and apply relevant technical and ethical standards
- P3 Analyse and assess the accuracy, currency and completeness of data and identify any additional data and material requirements
- P4 Obtain additional data and material from relevant sources as appropriate
- P5 Select, propose and agree appropriate methods for analysis and interpretation
- P6 Estimate resource requirements for analysis and interpretation using agreed methods
- P7 Present proposals for analysis and interpretation to interested parties in a format to assist decision making and in accordance with organisational procedures

Carry out agreed programme of analysis and interpretation

- P8 Ensure that analysis and interpretation is conducted efficiently and systematically and in accordance with the method statement
- P9 Adapt procedures and practices appropriately to allow for different circumstances and conditions
- P10 Ensure that observations and measurements are accurate and fully meet data requirements
- P11 Consult expert advice in instances where additional, specialist information is required which is relevant to analysis and interpretation
- P12 Advise interested parties promptly of potentially critical findings and constraints arising during the programme
- P13 Identify and record data and material which may require more detailed investigation
- P14 Clearly and accurately record data and store it securely

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Prepare and submit reports

P15 Present the results of the work clearly in a manner appropriate to its audience

P16 Qualify research findings where data are insufficient or potentially unreliable

P17 Acknowledge appropriately all sources of information

P18 Submit the results of the work to relevant people for peer review and respond to suggestions

P19 Protect confidential information in accordance with agreements and procedures

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 How to carry out analysis and interpretation
- K2 Data protocols
- K3 Relevant technical and ethical standards
- K4 Types of analysis and interpretation
- K5 Types of method
- K6 How to conduct analysis and interpretation
- K7 Sources of specialist information and advice
- K8 How to observe and measure accurately
- K9 How to adapt analysis and interpretation procedures and practices to suit different conditions
- K10 How and where to record and store analysis and interpretation data
- K11 Types and modes of analysis and interpretation
- K12 Circumstances and conditions which can affect analysis and interpretation activities
- K13 Data protocols used in different analysis and interpretation methods
- K14 How to communicate with different audiences
- K15 How to acknowledge and cite sources of information
- K16 The appropriate format and medium for reporting different types of research
- K17 How to summarise the results of relevant research
- K18 The principles of copyright and other relevant legislation
- K19 The procedures for peer review

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Relevant occupations

Suite

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