

# PRINCE2 Agile® Foundation Examination Specification

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## 1. Introduction

The purpose of this document is to outline:

- the learning outcomes of the PRINCE2 Agile® Foundation qualification and the assessment criteria that a candidate is expected to meet for each learning outcome (with reference to the *PRINCE2 Agile Guidance* publication, 2015 edition, 3<sup>rd</sup> impression)
- the examination design, in terms of question types to be used, exam duration and administrative considerations
- the weightings (number of questions) across learning outcomes, assessment criteria and ‘Bloom’s level’ (level of cognitive processing required to answer the question/task, according to Bloom’s (revised) taxonomy).

The target audience for this document is:

- Examination Institute partner
- Accredited Organization partners

The purpose of the PRINCE2 Agile® Foundation Examination is:

- to assess whether the candidate can demonstrate sufficient recall and understanding of the PRINCE2 Agile® project management method, as described in the examination specification below, to be awarded the PRINCE2 Agile® Foundation qualification. (The PRINCE2 Agile® Foundation qualification is a prerequisite for the PRINCE2 Agile® Practitioner Examination, which assesses the ability to apply understanding of the PRINCE2 Agile® project management method in context.)

The target audience for this qualification is:

- Agile professionals, project managers and aspiring project managers who want to be able to combine PRINCE2® and Agile in the most effective way when using PRINCE2®, Agile behaviours, concepts, frameworks and techniques.
- Other key delivery team staff, including: product owners, Scrum Masters and developers.
- Business professionals with an interest in iterative and incremental project delivery through collaborative working.

## 2. PRINCE2 Agile® Foundation Examination Specification

The table below specifies the learning outcomes of the PRINCE2 Agile® Foundation qualification, and the assessment criteria used to assess a candidate's achievement of these learning outcomes, subsequent to a course of study.

Note: Principal book references are in parentheses. These refer to the section, but not the subsections within it.

The verb for each assessment criterion indicates the Bloom's level (BL): 'Recall'/'Define' indicates Level 1 basic recall and recognition, 'Describe'/'Explain', indicates Level 2 understanding/ comprehension.

Learning Outcome	Assessment Criteria	Bloom's Level	No. of questions per exam paper
1. Understand key concepts relating to projects and PRINCE2	1.1 Recall the PRINCE2 principles. (5.2, tab 7.1) 1.1 a) Continued business justification 1.1 b) Learn from experience 1.1 c) Defined roles and responsibilities 1.1 d) Manage by stages 1.1 e) Manage by exception 1.1 f) Focus on products 1.1 g) Tailor to suit the project environment	BL1	1
	1.2 Explain the purpose of the PRINCE2 themes. 1.2 a) Business case (9.1, tab 5.1) 1.2 b) Organization (10.1, tab 5.1) 1.2 c) Quality (11.1, tab 5.1) 1.2 d) Plans (12.1, tab 5.1) 1.2 e) Risk (13.1, tab 5.1) 1.2 f) Change (14.1, tab 5.1) 1.2 g) Progress (15.1, tab 5.1)	BL2	1
	1.3 Explain the purpose of the PRINCE2 processes. 1.3 a) Starting up a project (17.1.1, 4.1.1) 1.3 b) Initiating a project (17.1.2, 4.1.2) 1.3 c) Directing a project (18.1) 1.3 d) Controlling a stage (19.1, 4.2) 1.3 e) Managing product delivery (20.1, 4.2) 1.3 f) Managing a stage boundary (21.1) 1.3 g) Closing a project (22.1, 4.3)	BL2	1
	1.4 Explain the purpose of the following PRINCE2 management products. 1.4 a) Business case (A.2.1) 1.4 b) Checkpoint report (A.3.1) 1.4 c) Highlight report (A.11.1) 1.4 d) Project brief (A.19.1) 1.4 e) Project initiation documentation (A.20.1) 1.4 f) Project product description (A.21.1) 1.4 g) Work package (A.26.1)	BL2	1

Learning Outcome	Assessment Criteria	Bloom's Level	No. of questions per exam paper
	1.5 Explain the responsibilities of the following PRINCE2 roles. (tab B.1) 1.5 a) Project board 1.5 b) Executive 1.5 c) Senior user 1.5 d) Senior supplier 1.5 e) Project manager 1.5 f) Team manager	BL2	1
2. Understand key concepts relating to projects and PRINCE2 Agile	2.1 Explain how PRINCE2 Agile is used in a project context and explain the difference between projects and business as usual (BAU). (Ch 1)	BL2	1
	2.2 Recall which agile ways of working are suitable for use with PRINCE2 Agile. (tab 2.1) 2.2 a) Kanban 2.2 b) Lean startup 2.2 c) Scrum	BL1	1
	2.3 Describe the need to 'blend and weave' PRINCE2 with agile at all levels of a project (project direction, project management and product delivery) including the eight guidance points. (3, fig 3.1, 3.1, 3.5, 3.6, fig 3.2, tab 3.4, 4.1.3, 4.2.1, 4.3.1)	BL2	2
	2.4 Describe the roles, responsibilities and competencies of the PRINCE2 Agile delivery team. (tab B.2) 2.4 a) Customer subject matter expert 2.4 b) Customer representative 2.4 c) Supplier subject matter expert 2.4 d) Supplier representative	BL2	1
3. Understand how PRINCE2 principles, themes, processes and management products are tailored and/or applied in an agile context	3.1 Explain how the PRINCE2 principles will be applied in an agile context. (tab 7.1) 3.1 a) Continued business justification 3.1 b) Learn from experience 3.1 c) Defined roles and responsibilities 3.1 d) Manage by stages 3.1 e) Manage by exception 3.1 f) Focus on products 3.1 g) Tailor to suit the project environment	BL2	2
	3.2 Explain the PRINCE2 Agile behaviours. 3.2 a) Transparency (7.4.1) 3.2 b) Collaboration (7.4.2) 3.2 c) Rich communication (7.4.3) 3.2 d) Self-organization (7.4.4) 3.2 e) Exploration (7.4.5)	BL2	2

Learning Outcome	Assessment Criteria	Bloom's Level	No. of questions per exam paper
	3.3 Explain the PRINCE2 Agile guidance for each theme. 3.3 a) Business case (9.3, tab 8.1) 3.3 b) Organization (10.3, tab 8.1) 3.3 c) Quality (11.3, tab 8.1, tab 11.3) 3.3 d) Plans (12.3, tab 8.1) 3.3 e) Risk (13.3, tab 8.1) 3.3 f) Change (14.3, tab 8.1) 3.3 g) Progress (15.3, tab 8.1)	BL2	7
	3.4 Explain the PRINCE2 Agile guidance for each process. (Ch 16) 3.4 a) Starting up a project (17.3) 3.4 b) Initiating a project (17.3) 3.4 c) Directing a project (18.3) 3.4 d) Controlling a stage (19.3) 3.4 e) Managing product delivery (20.3) 3.4 f) Managing a stage boundary (21.3) 3.4 g) Closing a project (22.3, 22.5)	BL2	4
	3.5 Explain the PRINCE2 Agile guidance for tailoring the following PRINCE2 management products. (tab 23.1, tab 23.2, tab 23.3) 3.5 a) Business case 3.5 b) Checkpoint report 3.5 c) Highlight report 3.5 d) Project brief 3.5 e) Project initiation documentation 3.5 f) Project product description 3.5 g) Work package	BL2	1
	3.6 Explain what to fix and what to flex, including setting tolerances and the five targets. 3.6 a) Fix and flex tolerances (6.1, fig 6.1, tab 6.1) 3.6 b) Be on time and hitting deadlines (6.4.1, tab 6.2) 3.6 c) Protect the level of quality (6.4.2, tab 6.2) 3.6 d) Embrace change (6.4.3, tab 6.2) 3.6 e) Keep teams stable (6.4.4, tab 6.2) 3.6 f) Accept that the customer doesn't need everything (6.4.5, tab 6.2)	BL2	6
4. Understand the agile ways of working, key terms and techniques.	4.1 Recall the definition of the following agile terms. (glossary) 4.1 a) Backlog (sprint, release & product) (16.4) 4.1 b) Benefit (value) 4.1 c) Epic (25.6.1.4) 4.1 d) Information radiator (15.4.2, 15.4.2.1) 4.1 e) Spike 4.1 f) Stand up meeting 4.1 g) Timebox (sprint, release (2.2)) 4.1 h) Velocity 4.1 i) Waterfall methodology	BL1	5

Learning Outcome	Assessment Criteria	Bloom's Level	No. of questions per exam paper
	4.2 Explain key Agile concepts and techniques. 4.2 a) Scrum Appendix H 4.2 b) Lean Startup (incl. MVP) (20.4.2) 4.2 c) Retrospectives (19.4.1) 4.2 d) User stories (incl. Definition of 'ready' and 'done') (25.6.1, 25.6.1.7) 4.2 e) Workshops (26.4.1, 22.4.1) 4.2 f) Burn charts (15.4.1) 4.2 g) Agile Estimation (points and T-Shirt sizing) (12.4.1, 12.3.3) 4.2 h) Working Agreements (10.5.3)	BL2	8
5. Understand the focus areas in an agile context	5.1 Explain the PRINCE2 Agile focus areas. 5.1 a) Agilometer (ch 24) 5.1 b) Requirements (ch 25) 5.1 c) Rich communication (ch 26 excl. 26.4.1) 5.1 d) Frequent releases (ch 27)	BL2	5

### 3. PRINCE2 Agile Foundation Examination Design

#### 3.1 Examination Administration

Duration: 1 hour

NOTE: Candidates taking the exam in a language that is not their native or working language may be awarded 25% extra time, i.e. 75 minutes in total.

Materials permitted: This is a 'closed book' examination. No materials other than the examination materials are permitted.

#### 3.2 Question Types

All questions are Objective Test Questions (OTQs), which present four options from which one option is selected. Distractors (wrong answers) are options that candidates with incomplete knowledge or skill would be likely to choose. These are generally plausible responses relating to the assessment criteria being examined. Question styles used within this type are: 'standard', 'list' (2 correct items), and, as an exception, 'negative' standard OTQ.

➤ Example 'standard' OTQ:

What is the purpose of the quality theme?

- a) To do Q
- b) To do P
- c) To do R
- d) To do S

➤ Example 'list' OTQ:

Which statements about product-based planning are CORRECT?

- 1. It does Q
- 2. It does P
- 3. It does R
- 4. It does S

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 3 and 4
- d) 1 and 4

NOTE: Two of the list items are correct. List style questions are never negative (see below)

➤ Example 'negative' standard OTQ:

Which role should NOT be shared with the role of project manager?

- a) Role Q
- b) Role P
- c) Role R
- d) Role S

NOTE: Negative questions are only used, as an exception, where part of the learning outcome is to know that something is not done or should not occur.



### 3.3 Scoring

Number of questions: 50

Marks: Each question is worth 1 mark. There are 50 marks available. (There are no 'trial' questions.)

There is no negative marking.

Pass mark: 55% or higher - a raw score of 28 marks or above

### 3.4 Weightings by Bloom's Level

There are 7 questions at Bloom's Level 1 = approx. 14%

There are 43 questions at Bloom's Level 2 = approx. 86%

### 3.5 Weightings by Learning Outcome

Learning Outcome	No.OTQs	Approx. weighting
1. Understand key concepts relating to projects and PRINCE2	5	10%
2. Understand key concepts relating to projects and PRINCE2 Agile	5	10%
3. Understand how PRINCE2 principles, themes, processes and management products are tailored and/or applied in an agile context	22	44%
4. Understand the agile ways of working, key terms and techniques.	13	26%
5. Understand the focus areas in an agile context	5	10%
	50 OTQs	100%

### 3.6 Weightings by Assessment (sub-) Criterion

The PRINCE2 Agile® Foundation Examination is designed to test both the breadth and depth of the syllabus. Every assessment criterion is tested on each assessment (ensuring that breadth is covered). Not all assessment sub-criteria are tested on each assessment, but have the possibility of being presented according to the weightings and paper build rules outlined in this document, thus requiring that the candidate acquire depth of knowledge in a high proportion of the syllabus content. Questions can be selected at random, however they must follow the paper build rules.

## Paper Build Rules

Exam papers must be built to consist of the number of questions per assessment (sub-) criterion shown in the table on pages 4-7. Questions must be presented in random order, not in the order of the examination specification. Answer options must be presented in the order provided in the question bank, and not in alphabetical order/order of length/random order.

Additional paper build rules are:

1. There are the following limits on the number of questions per question style

Question style	No.OTQs
Standard	Max. 46 Min. 44
Negative	2 Max
List	4
	50 OTQs