Apply standards for the description and location of items



Overview

This standard is about cataloguing items so that they are accurately described and their location assigned. It covers the use of metadata standards for describing the item's purpose, type, audience, currency, provenance, etc. It also covers the use of cataloguing and filing schemes so that items can be stored in an appropriate place and easily retrieved. It does not cover indexing and labelling standards to enable the identification of the content of an item for subject searching, which is covered in standard E7.

This standard is applicable to people in practitioner and operational roles who apply processes and standards that enable items in physical and digital collections and repositories to be found.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 analyse and understand the information content
- P2 ensure a helpful and logical arrangement of the physical collections by applying agreed classification and filing schemes
- P3 organise physical and digital items according to the scheme used
- P4 apply or check metadata to ensure it accurately describes the item and its provenance
- P5 develop templates and systems to enable the automated addition of metadata
- P6 develop indexes to collections using agreed conventions
- P7 write catalogue entries with the amount of description appropriate to the collection and its use
- P8 develop and maintain classification and filing systems appropriate to the collection
- P9 accurately enter classification and filing data into manual or electronic systems
- P10 keep records about modifications needed and made to the conventions

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and	
understand:	

- K1 the principles of classification, metadata and filing structures
- K2 relevant external standards for classification, metadata, and filing structures
- K3 your organisation's processes and standards for classification, metadata, and filing structures
- K4 the subject matter in your area of responsibility
- K5 how the content and materials will be used and any long-term implications of this use that will affect your treatment of material
- K6 the purpose of the indexes, catalogues or files, and the factors that determines their scope and range
- K7 how best practice in cataloguing and indexing can ensure the representation and visibility of under-represented groups in collections

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Additional Information

Behaviours

- 1. You appreciate the level of detail needed to meet the needs of the organisation and customers
- 2. You champion the application of standards across the organisation
- 3. You are willing to adopt standards and tools developed by others
- 4. You seek to improve the relevance of standards for describing items for your organisation
- 5. You recognise the importance of standards for enabling items to be identified, stored, and found

Links to other NOS

This standard has links with the NOS for Health Informatics, developed by Skills for Health.

See www.skillsforhealth.org.uk

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