

Achievement Data Management

The **DON'Ts** and **DOs**

A suggested Best Practice guide

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Management Services and Consultancy

Presented by Ed Drake

Context

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Context

- Funding agencies and Inspectors believe that some providers are manipulating their achievement data to maximise success rates
- Pre-emptive data checks are now being undertaken by Inspectors (and potentially auditors) on achievement data credibility
- Are you doing anything which would contravene the latest guidance on what is acceptable and what is not?
- If so, what is the scale of this?
- What will you decide to defend and what will you have to change?
- Which data should you change?
- Which current practices should you change?
- Are there any associated training issues?

What not to do

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What not to do

Don't exclude enrolments from your ILRs

- *you may be deliberately excluding non-successes from your data*

Don't remove enrolments from later ILRs

- *you may be deliberately removing non-successes from your data*

Don't delay putting enrolments into your ILRs

- *you may be deliberately waiting to see if learners achieve*

Don't change the funding status of enrolments in later ILRs

- *you may be deliberately removing non-successes from your data*

Don't extend planned end dates in later ILRs

- *you may be deliberately avoiding non-successes within your data*

What not to do

Don't change the durations of enrolments in later ILRs

- *you may be deliberately changing the category in which successes or non-successes are reported (long / short)*

Don't change withdrawals to transfers in later ILRs

- *you may be deliberately removing non-successes from your data*

Don't assign transfers where there are no subsequent enrolments

- *you may be deliberately avoiding non-successes within your data*

Don't transfer learners to a lower level

- *you may be deliberately avoiding non-successes within your data*

Don't transfer or move learners to smaller qualifications

- *you may be deliberately avoiding non-successes within your data*

What to do

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What to do

- What checks should you be undertaking to establish a position statement on current achievement data and practices?

Check your last complete year's ILR data in respect of all of the previously highlighted areas of concern

- *(eg. compare 2008-09 F02 vs F05, W01 vs W13)*

Check your current year's ILR data in respect of all of the previously highlighted areas of concern

- *(eg. compare 2009-10 F01 vs F02, F02 vs latest LR ILR, W01 vs latest ER ILR)*

- Are you doing anything significant which contravenes any of the outlawed practices?

Document (or at least rehearse) arguments which defend current achievement data and practices (where appropriate)

What to do

- What changes should you be making to remedy current achievement data and practices which cannot be defended?

Change 2009-10 ILR data (where appropriate)

Change current and future data management practices (where appropriate)

Identify the curriculum areas where current practices are no longer appropriate, negotiate and agree the changes to be made and retrain appropriate staff

- In practical terms, beyond what point do in-year changes to ILR data become inappropriate?

Whilst external agencies would expect the data to be correct at source and then remain unchanged, amendments prior to first ILR submissions can only be tracked via source documents



How can ADaM help?

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How can ADaM help?

- Targeted reports address all of the previously outlined achievement data issues (*except where enrolments never appear in the ILR which external agencies cannot easily identify either*)
- Allows reconciliation of any 2 ILRs (LR or ER) from the last 3 years to allow current and previous practices to be highlighted
- Identifies current year data which may need to be changed
- Identifies curriculum areas which may need to be targeted for changes in practice
- Can provide peace of mind as well as evidence to external agencies that proactive checks on data quality are being undertaken

Using ADaM

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ADaM is driven entirely from a single 'wizard' which walks you through the available analyses making it simplicity itself to use



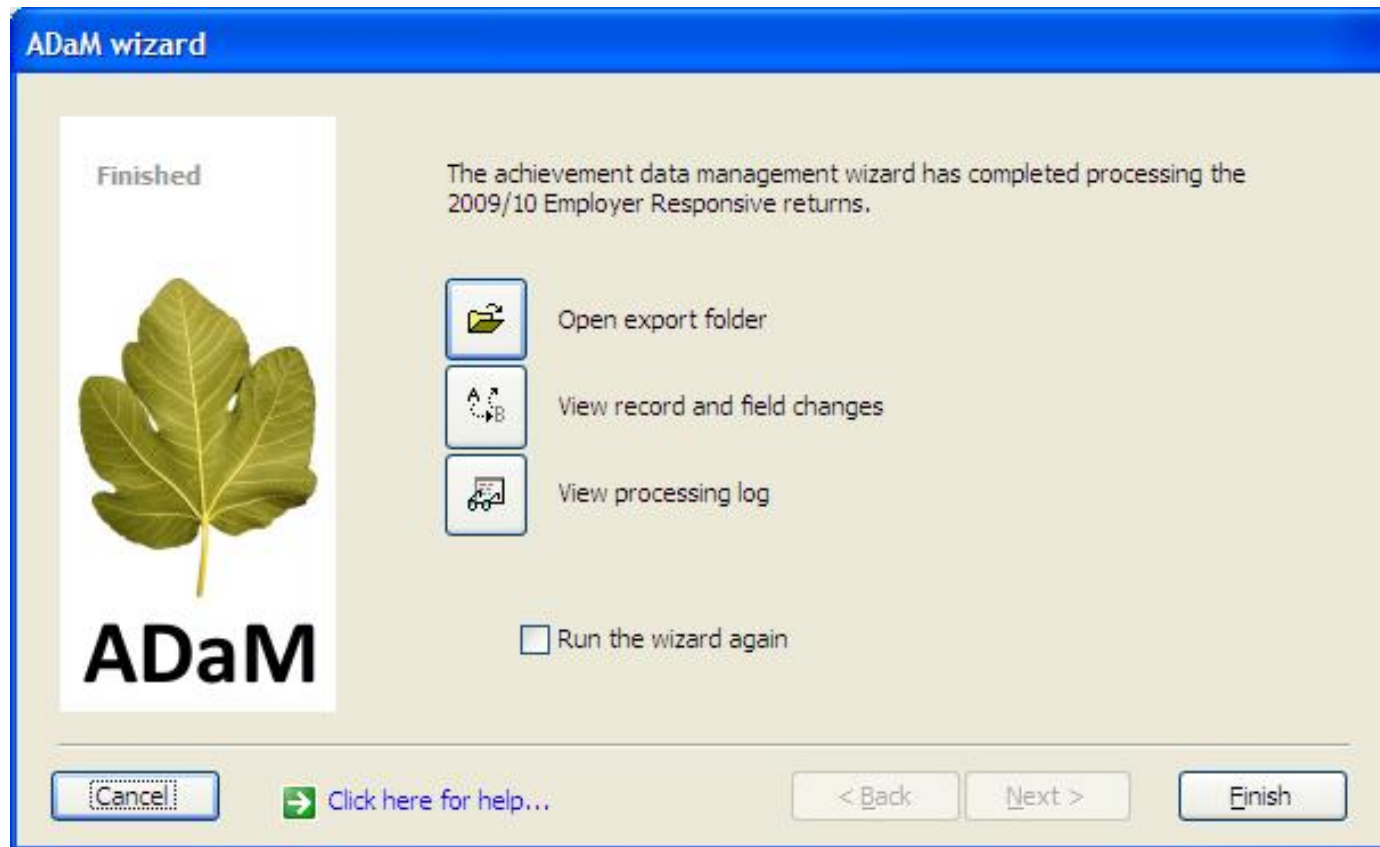
ADaM looks for consistency between ILRs based on A03 and A09 (default setting) but can also link on A48a/b (customised settings)



Simply point ADaM at any 2 ILRs (LR or ER) to be reconciled











ADaM runs all reports in minutes as a single batch (unless selected otherwise via the customised settings)



Once the reports have run they can either be viewed (along with an additional on-screen data viewer) or the 'wizard' can be run again

- All reports show a summary to immediately focus attention on the main areas of interest for external agencies as well as yourself

Record counts

Issue	Count	Relative
DM1 Funding source (A10): Changed from LSC funded to non-LSC funded	29	0.09% 
DM2a Existence: Enrolment no longer appears in ILR	1	0.00% 
DM2b Existence: Enrolment missing from earlier ILR which should have been included	0	0.00%
DM3a Planned end date (A28): Extended into subsequent academic/funding year	313	0.96% 
DM3b Planned end date (A28): Brought forward to move non-achievements from Long to Short or Very Short category	16	0.05% 
DM3c Planned end date (A28): Extended to move achievements from Short or Very Short to Long category	28	0.09% 
DM4a Transfer (A34): Status changed from withdrawal to transfer	36	0.11% 
DM4b Transfer (A34): Transfers without subsequent new enrolment	685	2.09% 
DM4c Transfer (A34): Transfers to lower level	504	1.54% 
DM4d Transfer (A34): Transfers from National Diplomas to smaller qualifications (within the same framework)	0	0.00%
DM4e Transfer (A34): Transfers from National Certificates to smaller qualifications (within the same framework)	0	0.00%
DM5a Learning aim (A09): Movement from National Diplomas to smaller qualifications (within the same framework)	0	0.00%
DM5b Learning aim (A09): Movement from National Certificates to smaller qualifications (within the same framework)	0	0.00%

- All reports are provided in PDF format
- Excel exports and an Access database allow linking back to your own data for further analysis

ADaM pricing

<i>Licence</i>	<i>Standard</i>	<i>Discounted</i>
Single (LR or ER)	£795	£595
Multiple (LR and ER)	£1,295	£995

The discounted prices will apply to everyone here today

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*All prices are subject to VAT
An annual relicence applies*

Summary

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Summary

- It is highly likely that your achievement data will be tested for credibility by external agencies in the near future (if it hasn't already)
- Ensure that you (and appropriate others) know what practices are no longer acceptable
- Check your data to see what impact these changes have on you
- Defend what you feel you can
- Change what you feel you can't
- ADaM can greatly assist with this process and can probably do it cheaper than you can

Thank you

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