

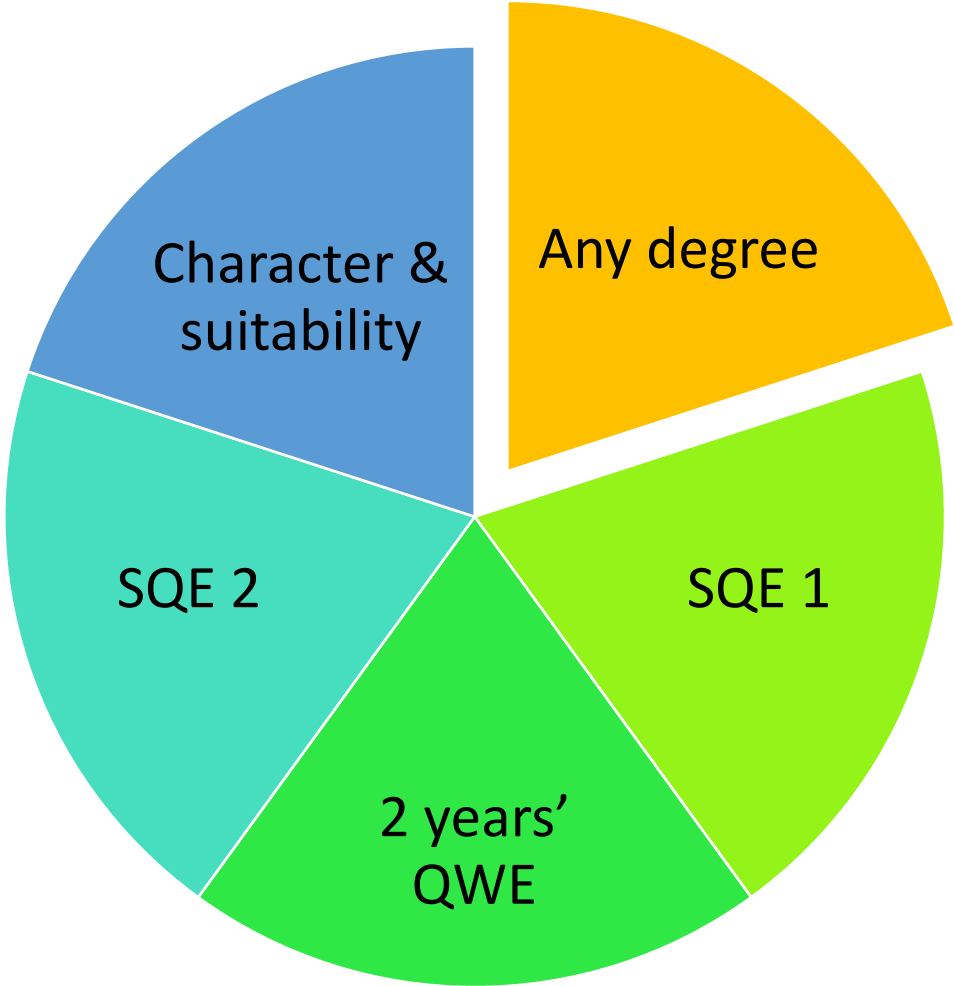
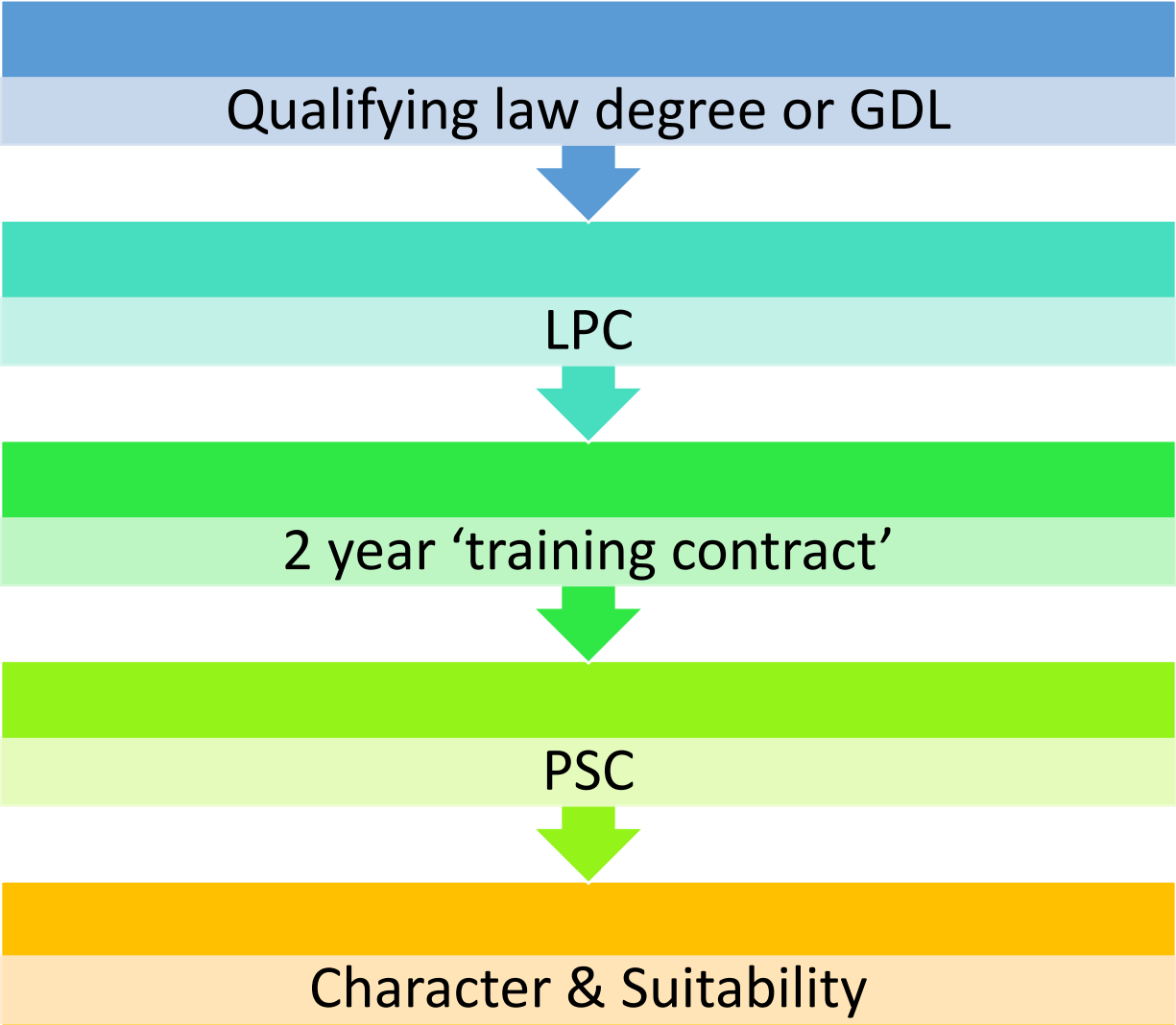


Qualifying Work Experience

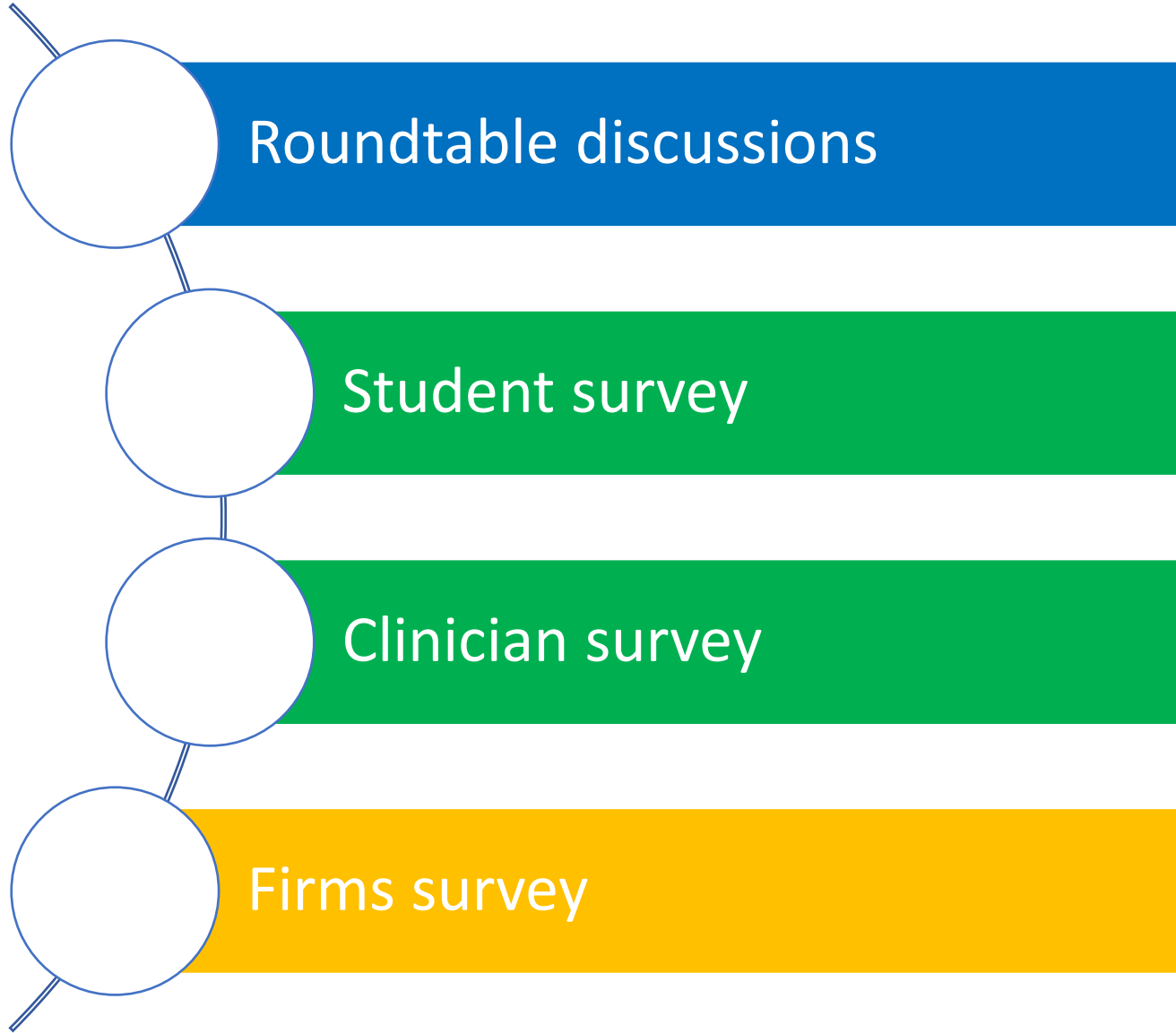
Andrea Todd & Lucy Blackburn, co-chairs, CLEO

Lucy Wildig & Emma Blackstone, Joint Heads of Pro Bono, BPP

Brief Recap

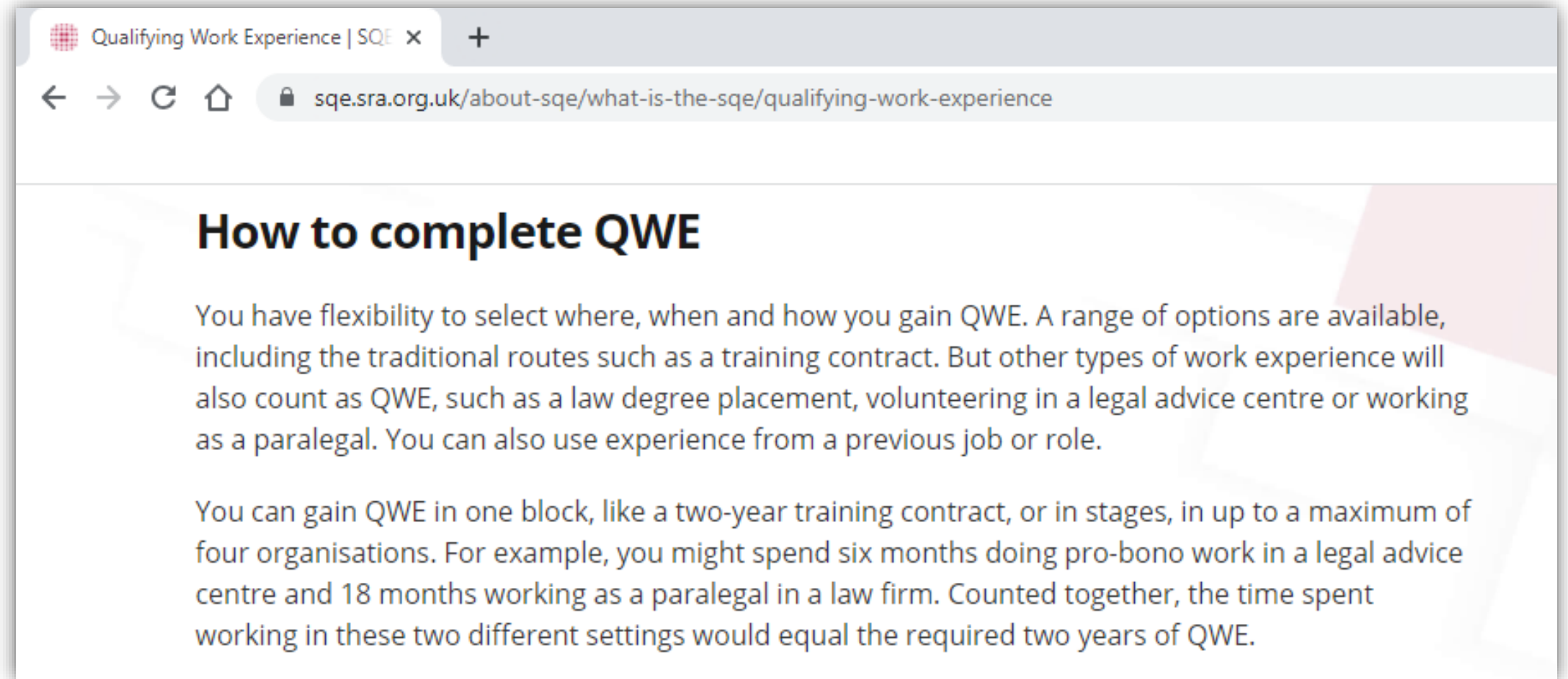


Our journey



- **Blackburn, L. (2022) Qualifying Work Experience Guidance for University Law Clinics.** Published via Clinical Legal Education Organisation: <https://www.cleo-uk.org/>
- **Todd, A. & Blackburn, L. (2022) Qualifying Work Experience in England & Wales: the opportunities and risks presented to university law clinics,** *Asian Journal of Legal Education*, 10(1), 101-110. <https://doi.org/10.1177/23220058221126654>
- **Todd, A. & Blackburn, L. (2022) Recording, Confirming and Registering QWE from University Law Clinics: A Ten Top Tips Toolkit for Student Volunteers,** and Guidance on Completing the SRA QWE Template for Clinic Work. Published via Clinical Legal Education Organisation: <https://www.cleo-uk.org/>

Perception: SRA position



The image is a screenshot of a web browser. The browser's address bar shows the URL sqa.sra.org.uk/about-sqa/what-is-the-sqa/qualifying-work-experience. The page title is "Qualifying Work Experience | SQA". The main heading of the page is "How to complete QWE". The text on the page explains that there is flexibility in how to gain QWE, including traditional routes like training contracts, as well as other options like law degree placements, volunteering, or working as a paralegal. It also notes that QWE can be gained in one block or in stages across multiple organizations.

Qualifying Work Experience | SQA

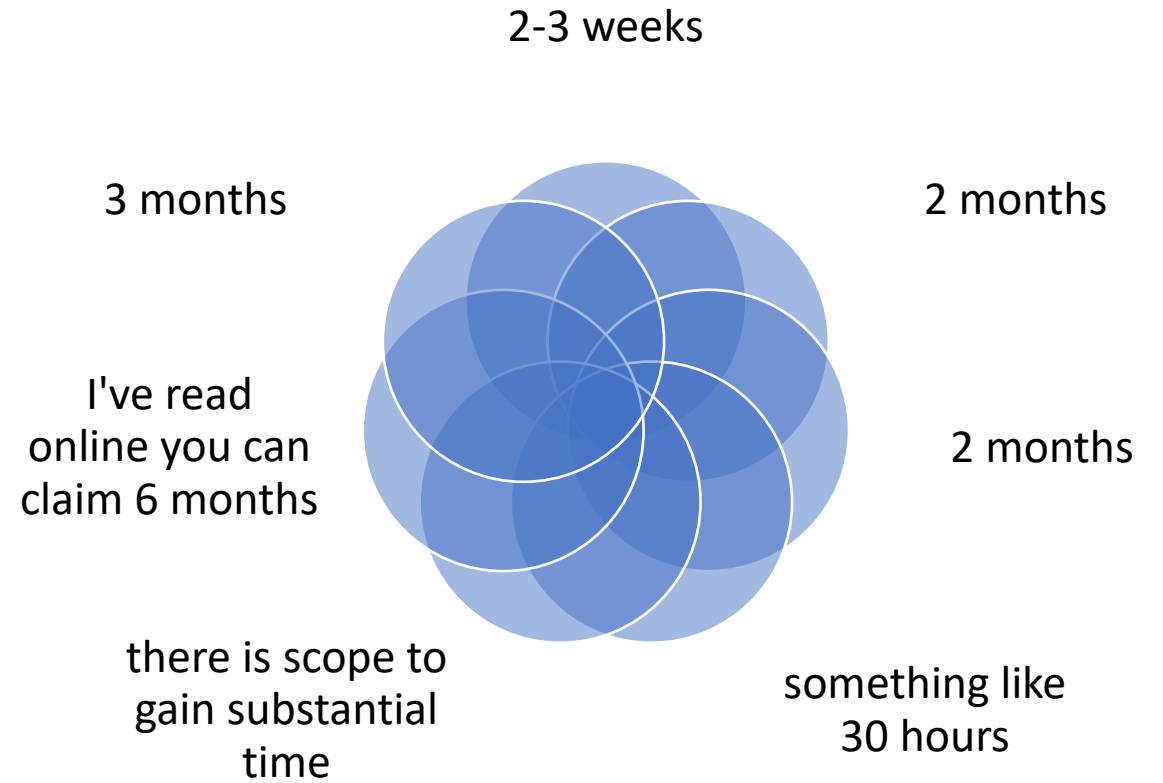
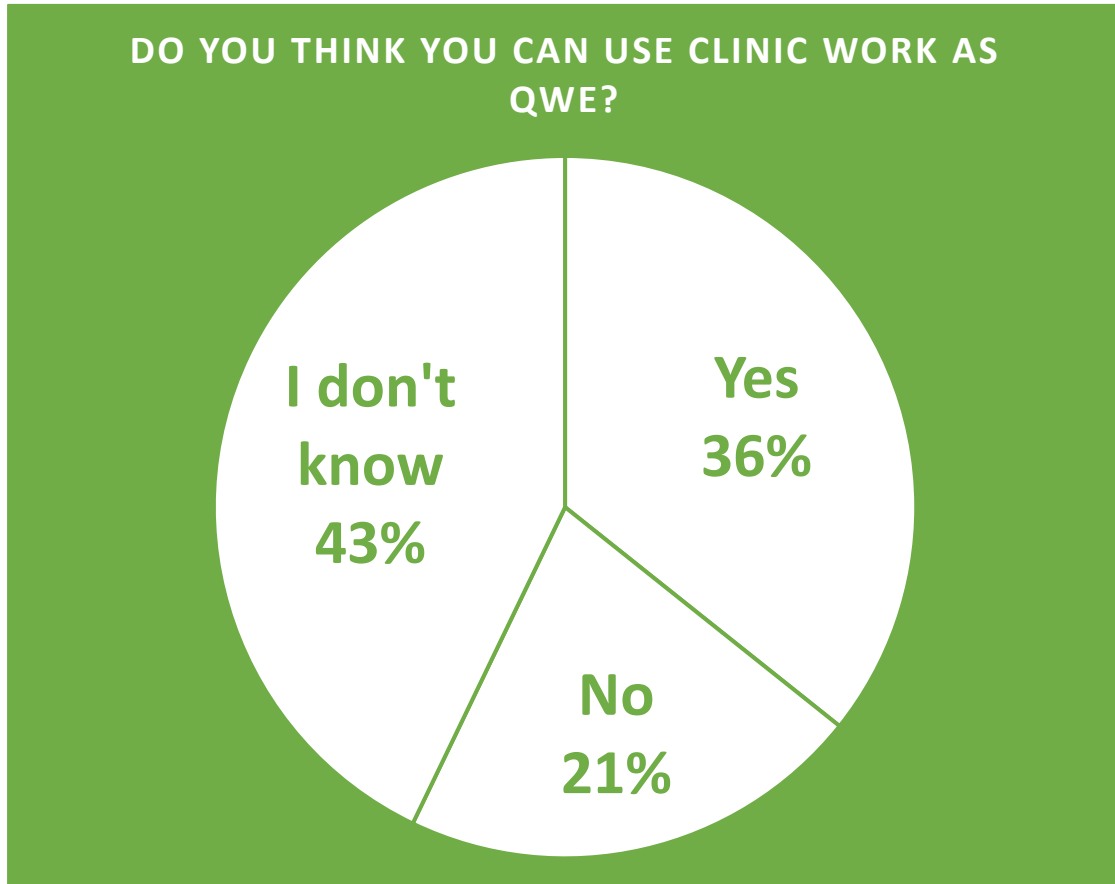
sqa.sra.org.uk/about-sqa/what-is-the-sqa/qualifying-work-experience

How to complete QWE

You have flexibility to select where, when and how you gain QWE. A range of options are available, including the traditional routes such as a training contract. But other types of work experience will also count as QWE, such as a law degree placement, volunteering in a legal advice centre or working as a paralegal. You can also use experience from a previous job or role.

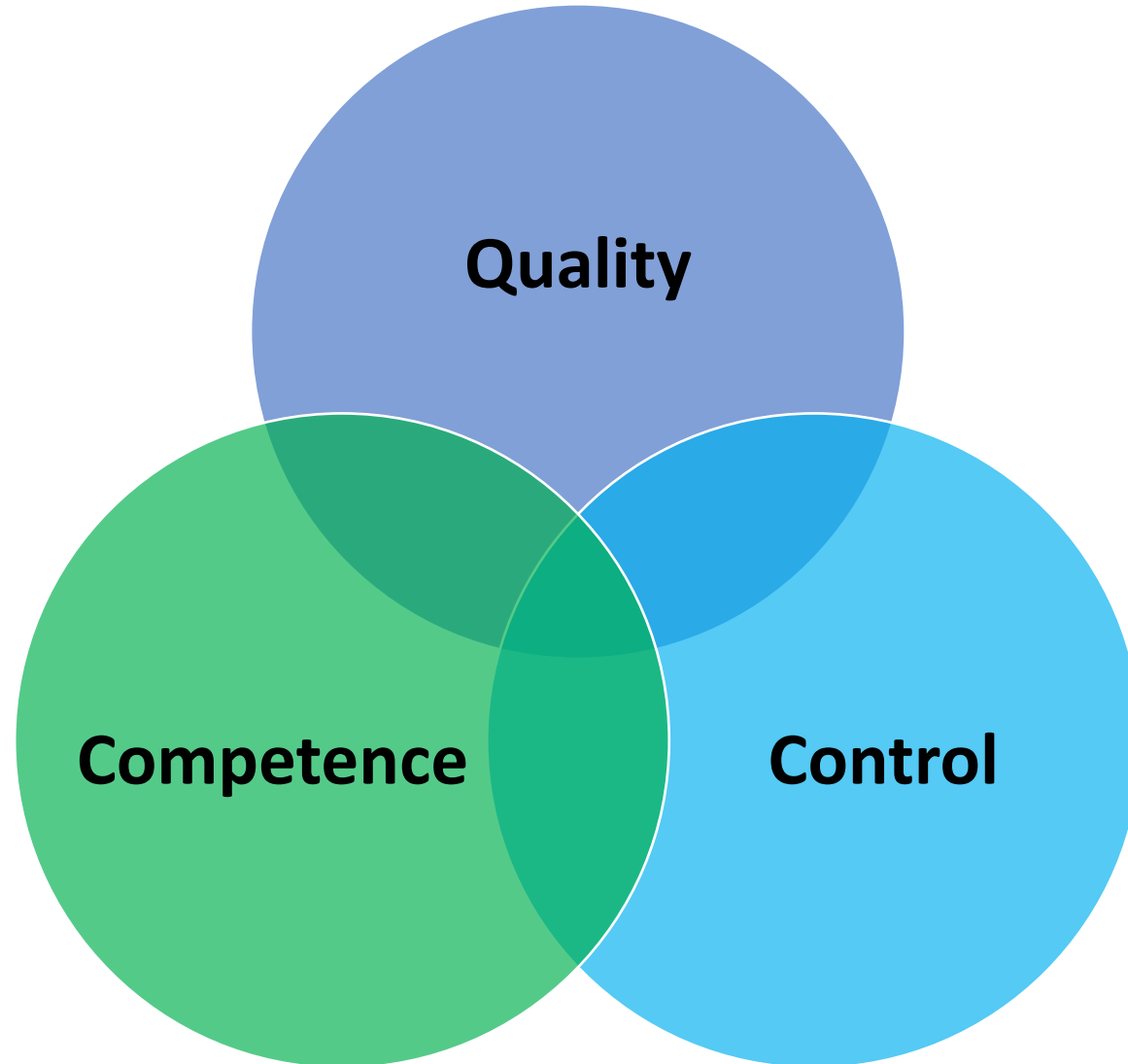
You can gain QWE in one block, like a two-year training contract, or in stages, in up to a maximum of four organisations. For example, you might spend six months doing pro-bono work in a legal advice centre and 18 months working as a paralegal in a law firm. Counted together, the time spent working in these two different settings would equal the required two years of QWE.

Perception: student survey

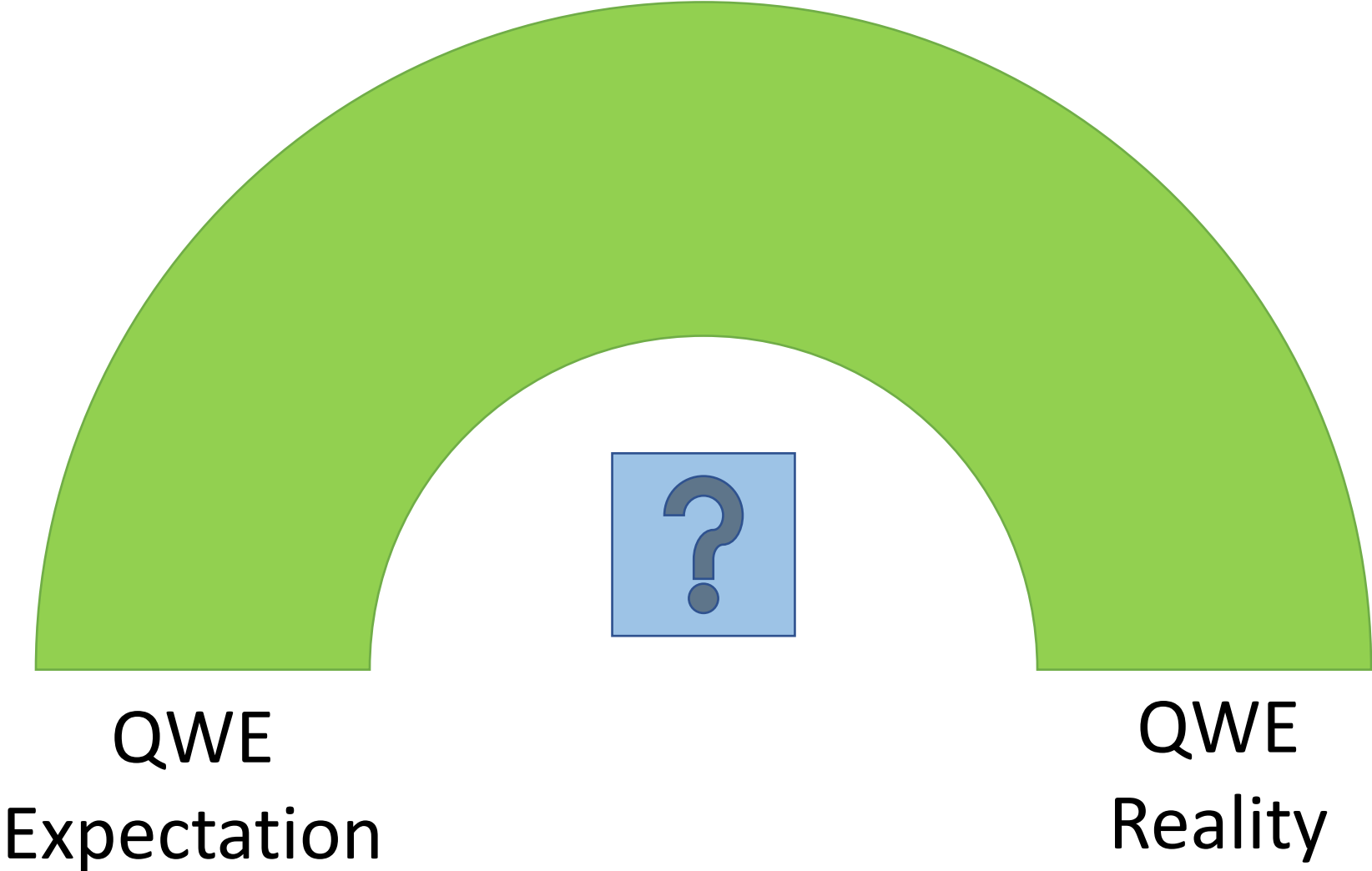


Reality: firms survey

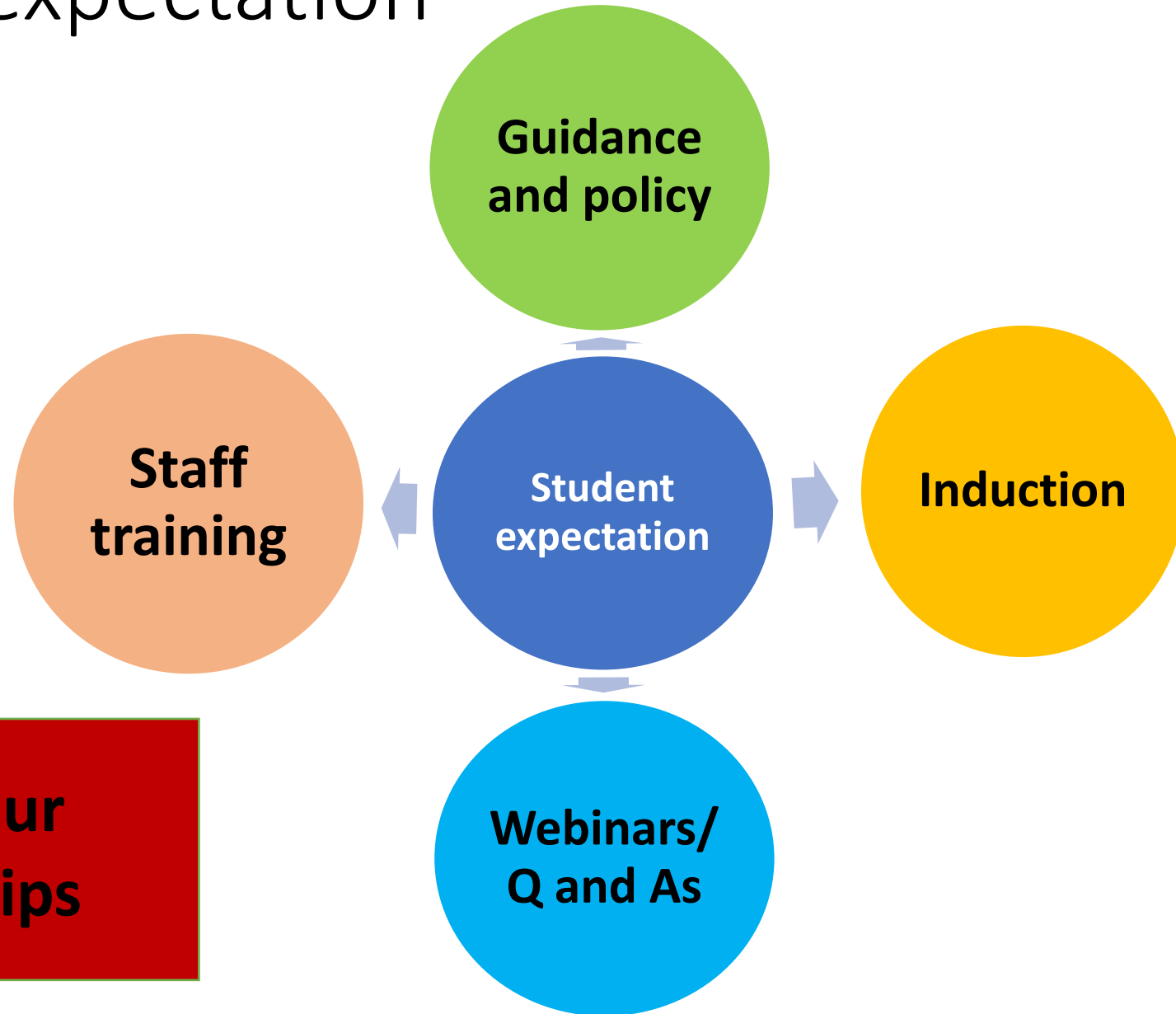
(n = 5)



Bridging the gap



Managing expectation



**Utilise your
partnerships**

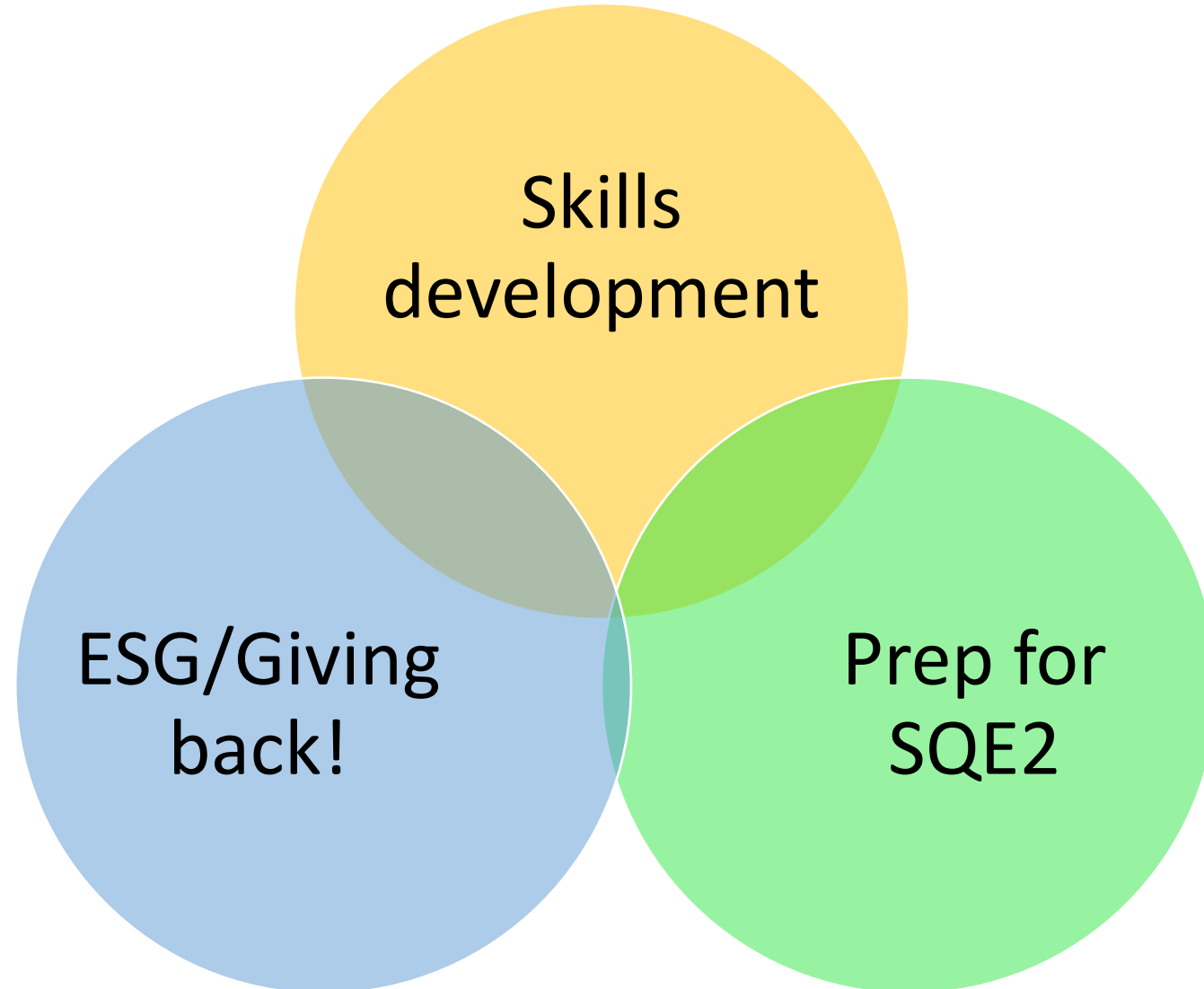
Alternatives?

The QWE trainee

BPP's QWE trainees

Providing legal services, grounded in legal work	SRA's Solicitor Competencies – opportunity to develop	Duration	Confirmation of QWE	Accessibility
Undertake casework in one of BPP's Legal Advice Clinics: Family, Housing, Welfare Rights, Enterprise and Consumer.	Role and responsibilities map to SRA competencies, in particular: A1 to A5 B1,2,3,4 and 6 C1 to C3 D1 and D2	6 months	By supervising solicitor responsible for line management	Paid Social Mobility criteria

Incentivising clinic students



Questions?