Personalised programmes: informing learners and families

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Skill: National Bureau for Students with Disabilities
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Who are we?

Non-governmental UK voluntary organisation - independent voice

- Advice to individuals by phone and web
- Sharing good practice through publications, conferences and research
- Campaigning for change in government policies and implementation

How the new framework can deliver opportunities for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities

- Real long term planning
- Removes ‘warehousing’ of pupils to manipulate different budgets
- Highlights impartial Information, Advice and Guidance at all stages
- Supports foundation learning, especially 19-25 year olds
- Clarifies transport arrangements

Continuing the investment in personalised learning post 16

- Considerable investment by LSC in an outcomes based approach
- ‘Improving Choice’ Eastern Region LSC
- Learning for Living and Work ‘the Little review’
- Focussed use of the independent specialist sector
- Collaboration for best practice in FE

Lessons from improving choice

- Independent broker for young people and families
- Best use of individual social support budgets together with education budgets
- Fostering trust between different agencies takes time and effort, role for Children's Trusts to look at both 14-19 and 19-25

Positive approach to 139a assessments

- Clear explanation of pathways and supported learner choice
- Include transport and social life
- High quality, maintained by clear standards, minimum qualification for assessor and sign off by senior manager
- Independent of local authority commissioning ‘budget’ but central to local authority planning of sufficient and appropriate provision

Independent and personalised Information, Advice and Guidance

- Well informed on Local Authority Cluster plans and regional
- Sensitive to learner aspirations
- Clear link with aimhigher, apprenticeships
- Good understanding of the range of outcomes from Foundation Learning, including independent living and supported employment and work

Young people and families tell us what they want

- To be empowered to make informed decisions about their future progression options
- To be aware of all the options available
- Without stereotyped limitations
- Focus on progression
- Eventual employment, where appropriate
- Up to date information about all possible provision options
- And support services
- Who does what next with timescales

Challenges for 14-19 partnerships

- Getting and sharing data
- Real action plans for 16-19 and 19-25 with disabilities – do you know what they are in your area?
- Opportunities are not limited by Local Authority boundaries
- Co-ordinating IAG

Skill Young People's information services

- New web pages aim to inform without prior knowledge of underpinning funding streams
- 'Just in time' information, the user chooses
- Text messaging options as well as phone and email helpline
- Link to social networking

Skill: National Bureau for Students with Disabilities

- **Skill Information Service:**
- Tuesday 11.30am-1.30pm
  Thursday 1.30pm-3.30pm
- Website: www.skill.org.uk
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