ASCL Association of School and College Leaders

Evaluating the Delivery and Success of the Diploma

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Where are we now?

No more gateway rounds

No obligation to collaborate

Removal of central support and development packages

Phase 4 diplomas withdrawn

Extended diplomas withdrawn

No requirement to form regional and sub-regional planning groups

Strengths

Student enjoyment and motivation

Development of new approaches to learning and teaching

Focus on skill development

Employer involvement

Collaborative working where already embedded

Development of teacher assessment (also a weakness in some consortia)

Extended project

Weaknesses

Complexity

No piloting

Difficulties resulting from forced collaborative working

Impact of lack of leadership

Collaborative working heavy on time

Heavy on resources for numbers involved (development and provision)

High risk because all or nothing qualification

Parental attitudes (risk averse)

Functional Skill requirement

Opportunities

Disappearance of the 14-19 qualification strategy

Removal of some of the complexity

Awarding organisations reluctant to waste investment

Schools/colleges more freedom to select qualifications

No imposition of collaboration models

Changes to performance tables

Support of employers

Threats

HE attitudes

Low completion rates summer 2010

Move back to traditional qualifications (effect of recession?)

Loss of additional funding and support

Uncertainty of future funding

Complexity of awarding with less centre support

Removal of central marketing