Promoting independence through high quality support

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Enhancement of Learning Support

Introduction

- Project director of the Enhancement of Learning Support Programme
- Improve outcomes and experiences of young people through high quality learning support
- Produced a series of resources and reports drawing on practitioner expertise
- How does this fit in the “big picture?”

Recognise and Value the role and impact of Learning Support

"LSAs are such an integral part of what we do..... anything we can do to promote that role and recognise the complexities entailed in it is worthwhile"

A quote from a Principal, interviewed as part of the initial research

Recognise and Value the role and impact of Learning Support

LSAs make your organisation inclusive!

- Investment in training and development
- Valued and included

Teaching and Learning

LSAs are there to support Teaching and Learning

- Greater emphasis on their role supporting learning
- Need for close collaboration with Tutors
- A specialist support for tutors

Understanding the role

- Widening the concept of learning support
- Life enhancing, life empowering technology that is not expensive
- Shared understanding of roles and responsibilities

Involving Learners

- A focus on enabling and promoting independence
- Personal qualities are key
- More person-centred/personalised programmes
- Purpose and outcomes – focus on getting the life they want
- **Above all they want the right to be involved in defining their own support**

Working together

- Value of working in partnership at departmental, organisational, local, regional and national level
- Opportunities for LSA teams to network with teams in other organisations

Responding to the Development needs of staff

- Ability to understand the “what and why of current performance”
- Continuous professional development which is based on demand from staff……
- and learners
- **Training is more than courses**!

How do we best support development?

Culture and organisation

"The way we do things around here"

- Inclusion
- Investment
- Status
- Value

The way forward?

- Learning programmes focussed on outcomes and purpose
- Implications for how we fund
- How we work together
- How we organise provision
- **Well trained and capable workforce**

Thanks

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