Developing autonomous learning in part time 'return to learn' students

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This project aims to:

- Develop and embed core study skills to form a toolkit for autonomous learning
- Work collaboratively with faculty and central staff to integrate a programme of study support and associated materials into module design and delivery
- Provide additional support and guidance tailored to student needs
- Evaluate impact

Smooth sailing - What's going well?

Working together across different departments

Development of resources

Module reconstruction with stakeholders

Development of baseline evaluation techniques

Innovative strategies

Focussed professional study

Overcoming obstacles

Organisation and funding constraints - Travel to Sheffield...

Will external IT facilities be able to support our project?

How can we promote student engagement?

Autonomy vs. support - A sensitive balancing act.

A recent project with part time students highlighted key gaps in study skills and digital fluency which have hindered autonomous learning. The aim of this project is to enhance the part time student learning experience by improving the transition into HE by implementing skills and strategies to develop autonomous learning. This project will engage twenty five work based part time FdA Early Years students who are learning from a distance.

Looking to the future

- January welcome event
- Module delivery begins January 2010
- Increase student confidence and develop an active, independent learning approach for part time students
- Ongoing evaluation and reporting
- Development of good practice for future Part Time distance students.

Supporting us to support others…
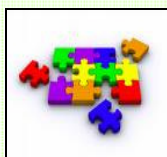
Specialist project knowledge

Adaptation of workshop and evaluation findings into conference and academic format.

Consultation with CETL concerning evaluation techniques

Outcomes

- Provide students with the tools and strategies to apply to their learning
- Develop active autonomous learning styles
- Improve retention through targeted support at keys times of the first module
- Develop a range of supportive materials specifically tailored for part time students to support their ongoing learning.

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