

Understanding Higher Education Careers Services

In April 2009, the Higher Futures Information, Advice and Guidance Network Team were invited to attend a one day CPD event at The University of Sheffield Careers Service. The team were welcomed to the Careers Service by Director Steve Fish who gave an overview of the service, explaining how the service is organized and how it works with its stakeholders.

The increase in students on HE programmes in FE raises issues for IAG practitioners. The event gave participants the opportunity to examine services available to students at universities. It also enabled them to explore a range of professional issues, guidance techniques and quality systems which are in use within university careers services.

Delegates took part in three main workshops:

- The role of the Careers Adviser
- Information provision and resources
- Encouraging skills development by students

The day concluded with a plenary panel which allowed team members to pose a range of questions to a group of Careers Service staff.



IAG network members from the following Colleges took part: Chesterfield, Doncaster, Dearne Valley, North Notts, Northern, Rotherham and Thomas Rotherham.

“A really enjoyable and informative day. I’m sure I’ll be using some of the ideas I saw in my work.”

Laura Schofield, Dearne Valley College

“Please pass on my thanks to the whole careers team for an interesting and very useful event.”

Derek Freeborn, Northern College

The event was very successful, with good feedback both from college delegates and the Careers Service team who led workshops. All the participants were provided with a resource pack to take away. In addition the University Careers Service agreed that some of its resources could be used by IAG team members in their colleges. This also led to the adaptation of some materials for use with specific college groups.

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