**Tutor update: 24th August**

Hi folks,

Going to focus on the preparation for higher education developments. Apologies email is a bit long but there is a fair bit to explain.

As I mentioned last week, Paula and Amy have been doing a substantial piece of work on developing the materials for delivery online and in thinking through the delivery of core prep for he activity. They have put together a video intro - https://youtu.be/riiqzg9E9Do

I am pleased to begin the roll out of the materials. We will be really keen to hear feedback from you. We have built that into the prep for he development, time for tutor review and we don’t mind it being rigorous.

First of all, attached the prep for he development guide, containing the learning and the “social and personal” developments. In looking at the principles of our prep work, we looked at the european framework for personal, social and learning to learn competencies. The full report is available here - <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/publication/eur-scientific-and-technical-research-reports/lifecomp-european-framework-personal-social-and-learning-learn-key-competence>

As a report it is worth a read. It has a resonance for our work, basing the learning competencies on lifelong learning principles as well as being conscious of the broader adult education needs of the students we work with. A lot of the way we support our adult students is reflected in the report and it therefore provides a good structure for prep for he.

The guide highlights the topics, which we will roll out through the year. We are going to place each lesson topic in the review section for tutors. Allows you an opportunity to comment, which we warmly welcome and of course to have an opportunity to see what the students will be provided with.

“Introduction to Prep for HE” is now available for review. Please follow this link –

<https://360.articulate.com/review/content/c162ec1b-2d3b-42a5-9afa-de844983e144/review>

Leave comments either on review or email them through. Be good to hear from you. We will have this one ready for students on the 7th September. If review comments can be provided for us by the 1st September that will be really useful.

We have consciously tried to “flip” prep for he by asking students to research the topics and then allow you to follow up during timetabled prep for he. We are also conscious that we are moving to a different way of learning this year and have therefore intentionally limited the activity to core prep for he. We also know there will be students starting their studies a bit later this year. To make the prep for he development manageable we are going to limit the activities to the following before Christmas

1.Intro to Prep for HE / 2.Prepare to Be Successful / 3.How do you Study? /4.Critical Thinking / 5.Choices: Applying to University and HNC

The study skill topics will take place after Christmas. In the future we are going to play about with that but for this development year we are keen not to over burden.

**Induction now live**

In order for the students to get an idea of how it works, we felt it would be useful to add the induction to prep for he. The SWAP induction is now online and available for students to work through. If you can circulate the link to students and advise they work through the resource prior to the induction visit. Means when we come to the virtual induction we can focus more on their questions.

We do have some specialist links for nursing and primary ed and we will circulate these round once they are ready. The specialist resource goes into the progression to university and application process – giving a gentle introduction. If you can re-assure students that we will be following up at the induction session on their questions and it is not that complex!

The induction link is <http://www.scottishwideraccess.org/moodle/course/view.php?id=3>

That will give you an indication of what the student versions will look like. If you can ask them once they are on the SWAP moodle to click on the lesson it will give them the full experience. We will pick up feedback during the Q and A but be good to hear back any thoughts from the students.

I have also attached a copy of the learner agreement. These are available to the students in the induction. We have firmed the agreements up a bit, just in light of a number of issues that arose out of COVID and handling it last year. For example, students being aware that SWAP programmes are partnership programmes and not SQA courses!

**Programme units**

Thanks to those who have popped over a note of their programme units. We are more than happy to have a chat if these are still being thought about. I am open to discussing units on the programme this year and especially the balance between ensuring we can give the students appropriate guidance. We will though need a list of units as I need to send these over to the Scottish Funding Council. This assures the SFC that the additional units allowed for a SWAP programme are justified for progression to HNC or university.

Apologies again for the length of the email – hopefully they will shorten during the year.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Kenny