

HEA Retention Project: Personal Academic tutoring

Project aim: Embed the personal academic tutoring system more effectively across all courses in supporting the academic and personal development of students using the Working in Partnership (WiP) model.

Project Leads: Rachel Barrell/ Suzanne Horton/ Jo Rouse

Project rationale: This project seeks to use and further develop the work of Dr Marie Stowell and Nick Breeze completed in 2016/2017

Intended project impact/success criteria: Improvements in statistical data relating to retention, progression, student achievement, student satisfaction in comparison to previous years data

Project objectives:

Objective	Start date	Completion date	Progress update July 2017
Establish a cross-institutional implementation group: At least two course leaders from each Institute. To be identified through quality, L, and T leads. To target courses with low student satisfaction rates linked to PAT / courses with high withdrawal rates at Level 5.	May 2017	May 2017	Completed
Deliver a ½ day staff development session to course leaders on how to implement the principles of the WiP approach through the PAT system*	June 2017	June 2017	Completed
Implement pilot involving courses from each institute	Sept 2017	May 2018	
Provide monthly or bimonthly reflection/ discussion sessions to support course leaders and teams	Sept 2017	May 2018	
Evaluate pilot project : Method to be developed in discussion with HEA project leads but to include observations/ perceptive of course team and student; statistical data on retention, progression and student achievement, student satisfaction through NSS and CES results and student engagement through UKSS results	May 2018	July 2017	
Disseminate to wider institution for amendment/ adoption	Sept 2018	Sept 2019	

- All Institutes and WBS were represented at the staff development session with representatives from IHCA sending apologies but agreeing to participate in pilot.
- In total, 14 courses had representation.
- Following the session, course leaders have been asked to identify whether they will adopt the WiP model completely or identify elements from the model to implement or decide the WiP model was not appropriate for their course.
- Feedback from course leaders about the WiP model has been very positive.
- The extent of implement of the WiP model will be confirmed at the first monthly reflection/ discussion session in September.