

Annex 1 - York Learning Self Assessment Report 2014 - 2015

Area of Learning: 16-18 Foundation Learning

Outcomes for Learners

Grade:3

Strengths:

- Good distanced travelled by learners in softer skills, particularly self confidence and motivation.
- Employability skills are developed and improved.
- Learners achieve and make good progress relative to their starting points.

Areas for Improvement:

- Outcomes for learners in maths, English
- Whilst outcomes in ICT are improving these are still unsatisfactory
- Only 25% of learners achieve a positive progression outcome
- Withdrawals from programme are too high which affects achievement
- Low levels of achievement in some areas of the programme.
- Emotional and outside issues can make progression and retention difficult to maintain for some learners.
- Moving on plans can be difficult to identify and put in place for some learners who may still need more time to progress than the length of the programme allows.

Quality of Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Grade: 2

Strengths:

- Good teaching leads to positive learner engagement and progress in vocational subjects
- Equality and diversity are promoted effectively through teaching and learning.
- Good care, support and motivation from well qualified staff in all curriculum areas support self confidence and improvements in self esteem.

Areas for Improvement:

- Some functional skills teaching sessions lack creativity and challenge
- In some functional skills teaching there is a disproportionate emphasis on the final assessment

Effectiveness of Leadership & Management

Grade: 2

Strengths:

- Good understanding of learner needs
- Relationship with external agencies which leads to good referral routes and support for the most vulnerable learners
- Outstanding social and emotional support for learners
- Timely interventions defuse potentially difficult situations and tackles bullying and discrimination.
- Safeguarding is paramount for all learners.

Areas for Improvement:

- Inappropriate behaviour of learners is exasperated by the building and current programme design
- Support for tutors and teachers to address behaviour issues
- There is some concern about the ability to generate positive outcomes in the time-frame the learners attend the programme

Overall Effectiveness

Grade: 3

Strengths:

- Effective design of Specialist Foundation programme is highly appropriate to learner need
- Good support for some of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged learners in the city
- Positive and productive relationship with external agencies which leads to good referral routes and support for the most vulnerable learners

Areas for Improvement:

- Retention of learners and number of withdrawals.
- There is some concern about the ability of learners to achieve the number and range of elements within the programme given their prior achievement.
- The introduction of a more joined up programme to allow the learners to see this as a whole.