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Session 2.4b

Using Action Learning principles with first year Social Sciences students at University of Roehampton

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Abstract

This presentation will outline the project undertaken at the University of Roehampton to introduce action learning with first year students. The aim of the project was to enhance student engagement; encourage independent learning; develop confidence; support student discovery of what it means to be studying at university. These aims map on to the conference key themes as listed above.

We will set out the context of the project; how it came about; outline action learning principles; share the findings from a pilot study, and finally where we are now with our first year groups. . Students who took part in the pilot study told us how action learning had helped them:

- Realizing problems and addressing them in a safe environment
- Feeling of control, capability and independence in realizing solutions to own problems
- Important for students to learn they are capable of tackling their own obstacles.
- Easier to follow own solutions than other's advice
- Everyone deals with things differently, and Action Learning helped us discover what solutions worked for us, by finding them ourselves.
- Has helped me in other areas of my life as well

Presenter details

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I am a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Social Sciences at University of Roehampton. I teach across two programmes within the department: Childhood & Society, and Sociology. My research interests are; disability issues; children and young people.

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