

Engaging Employers A College Experience



Strategies to develop employability skills in universities and colleges.

The core purpose of any college employer engagement strategy is to ensure that provision contributes to improving business productivity and public sector efficiency. It should focus on improving employability skills and increasing the pool of employable people.



Employability skills

Provision needs to include skills training across every level of learning, from basic skills and intermediate vocational level skills, to higher level vocational skills, including first degrees.



The New College Experience

Practical advice !



Practical advice

Sector Based Relationship

Engage with the emerging industry partnerships to become a provider of skills training for specified sectors

Develop and maintain strong relationships with employers, assisting them to meet the skills training needs of adults already in their workforce



Practical advice

Work-based Learning

Provide a range of work-based courses for priority sectors, offering opportunities for the participants to learn skills on the job and to progress to higher levels of skill competencies.



Practical advice

Work Placements

Securing appropriate work placements opportunities to ensure that students understand the relevance of their learning to the workplace.



Practical advice

Employers as customers

Develop a standardised database that illustrates, by employer, any contact made, learners placed, and potential needs for future opportunities.



Practical advice

Employer Panels

Developing courses in co-operation with employers to meet their immediate and predicted skills needs.



Practical advice

Curriculum Development

Respond in a flexible manner to the needs of priority sectors, designing curriculum and implementing delivery methods that match employer's needs and work patterns.



Practical advice Recap

- Sector Based Relationship
- Work-based Learning
- Work Placements
- Employers as Customers
- Employer Panels
- Curriculum Development



Questions?

Answers!

Thank You!



In Groups

Start to consider how each can be achieved ?

- **Is this viable?**
- **Possible successes**
- **What needs to happen?**
- **Who needs to lead?**
- **Who needs to be involved?**
- **What further support is needed**

Groups to offer answers !



Consider the key action points you can implement now to enhance your employer engagement

Identify and place three action points in the plan, each with a clear objective and realistic time frame



In Groups

Start to consider.....

Forming strategic partnerships with sectors to develop responses to skill needs

- **Bodies**
- **Individuals**



Feedback from groups.. discussion!

