OUTSTANDING TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT TECHNICAL SKILLS NATIONAL PROGRAMME

Lesson resource for preparing health and social care students for work experience
Created by: Colchester, Harlow, Havering and USP Colleges
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Learning outcomes

- To prepare learners for their first work placement within Health and Social care
- To encourage all learners to consider what skills you need to work in the sector
- To discuss and provide practical information about starting placement.
The purpose of completing work experience is to:

- Further develop the knowledge, skills and behaviours developed in college by applying these in practice
- Develop a range of employability skills including working as part of a team, communication skills, receiving on and acting on instructions, using initiative and being professional
- Provide a taste of what it is like to work in the Health and Social care sector
- To fulfil the requirements of the course that you are studying.
COLLEGE EXPECTATIONS

- Our placement coordinator will work with you to identify a suitable placement for you
- All learners must have an enhance DBS check before you start placement
- We will monitor attendance throughout
- Placements and learners can let us know about any concerns at any point
Learner expectations

We expect all our learners:

- To feel welcome & valued
- To be given support & guidance by placement staff
- To be given the opportunity to carry out placement tasks
- To be given an allocated time with a designated supervisor to discuss progress
- To become part of the team within the work placement
So what to expect?

- Who has worked in or visited a Health and Social care setting? That should include progression learners
- Can we buddy you up with people who are new so that you can share your experiences?
Placement handbook

- This will give you all you need to know about starting placement.
- We need to start by thinking about the skills that you need, your current abilities and what do you hope to gain from your work experience.
- On page 5 – complete the skills strengths/weaknesses questionnaire
- You do not need to share your answers – it is just for you to reflect on these as you start placement
Employers expectations

- You will be meeting some employers later
- What do you think they expect of learners?
- In pairs complete the activity on page 6 and compare it to the expectations at the bottom of the page
Employer expectations

When talking to employers these are the expectations that they have of the learners that they take on placement – how do these match up to your list?

- Passion for working within Health and Social care
- Arriving on time
- Be prepared to work hard
- Show some initiative
- To ask questions if unsure
- Enthusiasm
- Phones being put away and kept away
- Writing skills so that they can complete paperwork
- IT skills for completing records
- Being presentable
- Knowing something about the setting that they are going to
- Eagerness to learn
Employer expectations - activity

- Look at the list on page 6
- In pairs – take 4 points from the list and write down how you would demonstrate this expectation
- Share your answers with others in the group
- You will meet employers later – can you write down three questions that you would like answered
So what do you want to get out of placement?

- You need to set some targets which are personal to you
- Complete the activity on pages 7– discuss with the tutor or a friend once you have finished.
Interviews

- Many settings like to interview learners first
- Read the information on pages 8 and 9
- Then in groups of 3 you will take part in a mock interview
Mock interview

1. you need to prepare some questions – a maximum of five

2. You will take it in turns to play each role
   - the interviewer
   - the interviewee
   - observer who make notes about how they are both doing

You need to allow for a maximum of 5 minutes per interview.
Meet with employers

- You are now going to meet with four different employers from the sector
- There will be a short presentation from each and then you can go around and meet with each one
- Please remember the questions that you wrote earlier.
Meet with employers

- Feedback
- What have you learnt so far?
- Go to menti.com use code
- This will generate a word cloud full of your ideas
So now the practical bit

- Read pages 9 and 10 of your handbook
- If you have questions – please write them on post it notes and add them to the wall – we will deal with these later.
Placement Visits
What to expect?

- One of our support team will visit you in placement
- They will observe your performance
- They will discuss your progress with your placement supervisor
- They will then talk to you about your performance, supervisor’s comments, about your strengths and weaknesses and areas of concern if any

This visit is meant to support you so please do not worry about it.
Things to consider

- Don’t forget you must act as a professional, and not a friend of the service users
- You must wear your college polo shirt so that you can be identified as one of our learners
- You must contact your placement before hand – they may want to interview you.
- You must complete a placement register and hand to your study tutor
Where will the placement be?

- The Placement coordinator will organise your placement.
- The coordinator will consider where you live and your travel options.
- It is sometimes better to be placed away from your immediate area as you may know people in the setting which can be awkward.
- We will only change placements in exceptional circumstances which must be discussed with the programme manager.
Getting to placement

- Maths activity
- If you have your placement:
  - Work out two routes to your placement
  - What is the difference in time to take the two routes?
  - What time do you need to leave home to ensure you arrive in plenty of time?
- Attendance should be at least 90%.
- If you are unable to attend you must call your setting before your start time and you must also call the college.
Don’t forget

For most learners – placement is the best part!! It is where you go to get practical experience, further develop the skills that you will need when working within health and social care, meet new people and be part of a team.

So enjoy it!
Tasks

- You have some induction tasks to be completed in your placement handbook – appendices 1, 2, 3
- Your study tutor will want to see these completed by the end of your second week.
- As you progress there will be additional tasks set including a reflective blog where you can record your placement experience.