Direct Entrant Induction at QMU: online and in person

5th Annual Gearing Up Conference
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Direct Entrant Induction/Transitions

- Direct Entrants (e.g., students who progress to level 2 or above in HE, from college courses or other pathways) make up a significant proportion of student pop. in many post-1992 institutions – such as QMU.

- DE students may feel under-prepared and/or have difficulty adjusting to learning & teaching at university. Concern for successful transition and retention of DEs.

- Tailored induction practices which start early, and continue past the first week into the semester and beyond, are beneficial to DEs and indeed all students at all levels.

  - Jones (2008); Briggs, Clark and Hall (2012); Thomas (2012); Christie, Barron and D’Annunzio-Green (2013); Whittle (2015)
Sessions and Early Feedback

- Taught Induction classes
- 2hr ‘Meet the Academics’ drop-in
- Introduction to Key Support Services
- Presentation Skills and Confidence Boosting

| 😊 | Very informative and have given access to a lot of useful resources. Good advice on where to access further help. What is expected. Meeting lecturers. Meet classmates. Getting to know the lecturers. |
| 🙁 | Good having the reading lists. Range of topics being taught. Feel great. Just normal worries on what to read or how to write work but that will pass with time. The DE team have helped a lot. Group work projects. Getting familiar with using the computer/Hub. |
| 😞 | Essays/assignments. |
| 😞 | Submiting essays/printing/accessing info prior to lectures/seminars. Standard deviation. APA referencing. Deadlines + Time management. |
| 😞 | APA. Referencing. |
Evaluation and Development

- Questionnaires and Focus Groups with DE students from QMU divisions of Business & Management, Psychology & Sociology, due to take place in coming months.

- Anecdotal evidence and early stats suggest positive effect on transitional experience and engagement of DEs joining QMU degree courses. More substantial evidence required, however.

- Efforts are underway by staff from academic divisions, support services and Centre for Academic Practice to improve induction initiative – and expand to all students across QMU School of Arts, Social Sciences and Management.