

2.5

Information, advice and guidance

Key partners

Aimhigher
Sussex, University of Brighton,
University of Chichester,
Connexions,
Local Authorities (East Sussex,
West Sussex, Brighton & Hove),
Northbrook College Sussex,
The Open University in the South East,
University of Sussex, Sussex Advice and Skills

Background

Information, advice and guidance (IAG) in Sussex is provided by a range of organisations as well as individual providers of education. This raises two issues. Firstly, whilst there is a multitude of IAG resources and initiatives, there is no single source specifically relating to vocational opportunities in higher education (HE). Secondly, whilst IAG aimed at younger learners moving from school to HE is readily available, there is less clarity for those moving from further education (FE) or work based learning into HE. For example, potential learners may find the range of qualifications and awarding bodies confusing.

Targets / Milestones

1 Resources relating to vocational learning provision at HE level across Sussex for use by students, employers and information, advice and guidance (IAG) practitioners

1.1 IAG working group **November 2006**

1.2 Map of subject specific and generic IAG provision **December 2006**

1.3 Online generic and subject specific IAG resources available **From April 2007**

1.4 Paper and online prospectus for vocational learning in Sussex **April 2007**

1.5 Pilot bridging provision for vocational learners **April 2007**

1.6 Pilot of personalised advisory service **July 2007**

1.7 Staff development opportunities for IAG staff **Throughout 2007**

Activities 2006–08

The IAG working group will work across existing networks and organisations to simplify, extend and promote IAG provision for vocational learning in Sussex. They will also work across the boundaries of Sussex in order to link with other initiatives in the south east.

The Sussex Learning Network has recruited five IAG officers and each will work for approximately two days per week over the next two years. They will each take discrete areas of the curriculum (the SLN's seven identified areas, plus engineering and construction) and map vocational learning and IAG provision, starting at levels 2/3. This will enable them to identify progression opportunities to HE and beyond and totally familiarise themselves with everything that is offered. In addition, a member of the team will cover 'bridging provision'. This is provision designed to offer a taste of HE to those in training or work who are uncertain about their readiness for higher level study. Part of this will be linked to an open source initiative and be freely available on the web. They will liaise closely with Sussex based agencies and members of our curriculum groups in order to produce appropriate online and paper based resources and run staff development events for IAG providers.

Part of the IAG provision will be subject specific and part will be generic, for example study skills and careers advice. We will pilot a personalised IAG service using email by July 2007.

