

adaptation
adjustment
alteration
change
conversion
development
flux
graduation
jump
leap
metamorphosis
passage
progress
switch
student
transitions
transfiguration
transformation
shift
move



enhancement
themes

Student Transitions: Briefing Note



The current Enhancement Theme is Student Transitions, a three year national programme of work that will focus on transitions into, during and out of university.

QAA Scotland manages the work of the Theme on behalf of the sector. It is led by the Theme Leader's Group (TLG) which is chaired by Professor Veronica Bamber from Queen Margaret University.

Work to support the Theme falls into three broad areas: institutional work, sector-wide work and work with students (Theme Student Network).

Institutional work

Each institution undertakes a programme of work managed by an institutional team. This allows institutions to adapt the work of Theme to best meet their own strategic priorities and needs. Institutions report to QAA Scotland, and their plans demonstrate the valuable and diverse work they undertake.



Sector-wide work

QAA Scotland facilitates the sector-wide work for the Theme. This is usually project-based work examining different aspects of the Theme and always aims to facilitate sharing of practice between institutions. Sector-wide work supported in the past year included:

- organising an international conference - Enhancement and Innovation in Higher Education: Student Transitions - held over three days in June 2015 in Glasgow
- support for care leavers and looked after people, including a factsheet to help institutions understand their role as 'corporate parents'
- learning from international practice in supporting student transitions
- identifying the key transitions skills students need and how students can be supported to develop and enhance these
- summarising and producing the synthesis of institutional plans
- developing a National Map of Transitions
- carrying out a formative evaluation of the work at the end of the first year.

Enhancement Themes Resources Database

The Enhancement Themes website is home to all the work from the Student Transitions Enhancement Theme, as well as outputs from previous Themes. Our specially designed Resources Database enables you to search easily and quickly, whether you're looking for publications, presentations, reports, case studies or materials from the latest events.

www.enhancementthemes.ac.uk/resources



Theme Student Network

The Theme Student Network comprises all the student members of institutional teams, as well as sparqs, other interested students and staff from student associations and unions. The Network meets regularly and has its own programme of work.

In 2014-15 the Network conducted two projects. Firstly, students from the Network ran a very successful event on the topic of support for care leavers, which also drew attention to legislation relating to corporate parenting which came into force on the day of the event, 1 April 2015. The Network also created a repository of good practice on the Enhancement Themes website, focusing on transitions into, through and out of postgraduate study.



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