





# Step into Health @ QMU programme

Suzanne Ewing Glyn Morris



## **Overview**

#### Part I: Step into Health

- Challenges
- Target Audience
- Our Aims and Approach

#### Part 2: Student Ambassadors

- Inputs, recruitment and training
- Outputs
- Outcomes of working with ambassadors
- Impact on our future ambassador engagement approach



# **Challenges**

#### Covid 19!

- University wide recognition of the difficulty senior phase students would face to gain any FE/HE experiences
- QMU has the largest range of professional Allied Healthcare courses of any university in Scotland how to promote in Lockdown?
- Other universities had successfully moved programmes online

# **Challenges**

Students who fit WP criteria are in the minority of competitive applications!

- Lack support from friends and family
- Can have an unstable relationship with school
- Do not have the knowledge or network to gain work/ life experience of Health profession roles

# **Target Audience**

Open to all S5 Eligible students who met WP Criteria

Year 21/22

Currently 19 pupils enrolled-

- 6 LEAPS 1/1+
- 13 SIMD 10/20
- 7 EMA
- 12 First Generation
- 3 Carers

Year 22/23

16 students enrolled

- 6 LEAPS 1/1+
- 10 SIMD 10/20
- 5 EMA
- 12 First generation
- 3 Carers
- 2 BAME

## Aims

# Strategic Plan 20-25 To be more Inclusive and Diverse

- Provide distinctive, accessible and high-quality education
- •Enhance further access for students from underrepresented groups, designing and implementing new approaches to flexibility in the learner journey in order to offer each student a journey that is appropriate to their needs.

# Our Approach

- To offer an exploration of Allied Healthcare courses through a variety of online mediums and resources
- Resources on offer:
  - Instagram
  - Facebook
  - MS Teams
  - University's VLE



## Student Ambassador Input

- Accessible means of content creation
- First-hand experience of studying at QMU
- Extensive knowledge of the course from a student perspective
- A way of creating a sense of belonging for current students at QMU
- To create approachable role models for senior phase students

# **Recruiting Ambassadors**

- We used internal communication channels and social media outlets to promote the opportunity.
- We offered ambassadors a choice of how they were involved.
- We offered the incentive of an Amazon voucher to help engage the ambassadors initially.



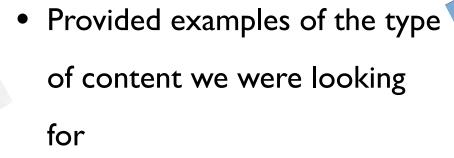
## **Ambassador Training**



 Supplied guidance documents on Netiquette

Delivered online safeguarding guidance







# Outputs



Blogs
Day in the life of videos
Podcasts
Recorded workshop sessions
Live Q& A sessions





### **Outcomes**

- Created a community of WP student ambassadors that can be utilised for future events
- Allowed ambassadors to gain skills in created online content
- Increased academic staff awareness of WP

## **Future Development**

#### Step into Health @ QMU - Online

- Self-direct exploration of Health Science courses
- An escape room format
- Participants can access at their own convenience
- Live sessions and ask a student options available for 6th year

#### Work experience opportunity

- Participants can apply to take advantage of this on campus opportunity
- Variation of roles shadowing / working in the clinic

# Impact on our future approach to ambassador engagement

Create roles for ambassadors within WP – previously always been through student recruitment

Recruit ambassadors earlier – allowing for potentially working with them for 4years

Make work opportunities over the summer

Allow ambassadors a choice in the content they create

Need for a sharing network of ambassadors

Acknowledge how busy ambassadors are and the cost-of-living crisis

# Acknowledgements

#### We would like to acknowledge the work of:-

- **Hayley Jones** Project lead, main facilitator and first point of contact for ambassadors and participants
- **LEAPS** for support in developing and promoting the Step into Health @ QMU programme
- **Student Ambassadors** 20 student ambassadors helped to create content and facilitate the delivery of the programme

### References

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# Thank you

# **Any Questions?**

