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Learning Spaces - Introduction

- ‘New’ learning spaces on Leeds Met campuses;
- By ‘new’ we mean a £2m capital investment from HEFCE – not a new ‘concept’;
- Research-informed evaluation til 2008;
- In particular, OBH.





Old Broadcasting House

Learning Spaces - Introduction

- Motivation behind the space
 - CETL funding
 - Achieving CETL outcomes
 - Embedding enterprise education
 - Providing conducive environments for enterprising and entrepreneurial settings



Learning Spaces - Evaluation

- Exploratory research – non-traditional spaces;
- Landscape of language
- What people can/have done in the spaces;
- How are the spaces being received i.e. positive or negative?
- Is it purely enterprise education activities that are taking place in the spaces?



Learning Spaces – How is it used for/by ‘students’

- Promotes active learning and teaching
- Affects students’ engagement in a positive way
- Valuable and integral support to classical learning and teaching methods
- Adaptable to diverse learning modes
- Offers blended learning opportunities
- Opportunity for student’s to experience a wider range of assessment, learning and teaching modes



Learning Spaces - + / -

- Potentially provide the impetus for the design of evolving pedagogy
- Concerns about under-utilisation i.e. 'flexible ambiguity'
- Leading to Staff development issues
- Concerns re physical layout – one size doesn't fit all
- Concerns re technological equipment
- Is the space for informal or formal learning?
- Do students own the space i.e. social area?



Learning Spaces - Feedback

- In the context of enterprise education spaces are showing to be fit for purpose i.e.
 - Enables student-centred learning
 - Enables group work and activities
 - Real world business scenarios i.e. role play interviews; the apprentice/dragon's den etc
 - Business simulations/dissertation clinics
 - Enterprise summer schools; and
 - The application and study of the theory of enterprise and entrepreneurial behaviour



Learning Spaces - Examples

- Best example to date – Enterprise Concepts
 - Year 3 Events Management students studying ‘Entrepreneurship & Business Development’;
 - Used the space for enterprise projects, but also;
 - Gave feedback on their use of the space



