How are we feeling today?

Evaluating confidence levels of students engaging with a new study mentoring scheme

Karen Croft: Skills for Learning Adviser
Study mentoring scheme
Evaluation of pilot 2016-2017

• Questionnaires and interviews
• Emphasis on students’ experience
  …not the impact of the scheme
• Limited data from mentees
Redesign of evaluation

Develop your academic confidence with support from successful students
Adapting UX techniques

We considered:

• Love letters
• Drawing
• Mind maps
Word cloud

Excited  Positive  Fearless
Hopeful  Capable  Worried
Anxious  Scared
Self-reliant  Overwhelmed
Upbeat  Downhearted
Independent  Confident
Doubtful  Unsure  Hesitant
Assured  Dubious
Enthusiastic  Pessimistic
Afraid  Optimistic  Nervous
Free drawing or writing

How will you approach your next piece of academic work?
Mentor confidence measures

- Academic behaviour questionnaire
- Measuring confidence
- Adapted their questions

Anonymous ids

So we can compare your forms anonymously, please write a personal identifier which you will be able to recognise later, such as part of your first home address, or your first school or similar.

Examples: 34ChurchRoad; CresswellSchool; 87Broadway

Your personal identifier:

.............................................
What happened?
What happened?

Activity 1

Circle FIVE words in the box below to describe how you are feeling about your academic work right now.

Excited Positive Fearless Hopeful Capable Worried
Anxious Scared
Self-reliant Overwhelmed
Upbeat Downhearted
Independent Confident
Doubtful Unsure Hesitant
Assured Dubious
Enthusiastic Pessimistic
Afraid Optimistic Nervous

5 positive

2 positive
3 negative
What happened?

Please give your thoughts on the question below – you might like to: draw a picture or diagram, write a list, or create a mindmap.

How will you approach your first piece of academic work?

First academic piece of work?

- Plan
  - Detailed
  - Skeleton
  - Topics going to include.

- Research
  - Arguments
  - Claims

- Command words
  - Answer the question

- Read
  - Books
  - Journals

- Expand knowledge
Mentor results

- Confidence levels at start were high
- Seven online questions - measurable results
- Small increase in confidence levels
- Open ended question – gave useful feedback
- Data straightforward to collect and analyse
Conclusions

- Working as partners with mentors
- Word cloud for measuring confidence
- Freeform input:
  ...needs a plan for analysis
  ...and no influence from others
Thank you

Karen Croft
Skills for Learning Adviser
Libraries and Learning Innovation
Leeds Beckett University

k.croft@leedsbeckett.ac.uk