

Evaluation: National Networks for Collaborative Outreach

Dr Gill O'Toole

Institute for Policy Studies in Education
London Metropolitan University

The Evaluation Team

IPSE: Professor Carole Leathwood
Dr Gill O'Toole
Dr Maria Tsouroufli

CEIR: Professor Jacqueline Stevenson
Dr Colin McCaig
Dr Manny Madriaga

Consultant: Dr Graeme Atherton

The National Networks for Collaborative Outreach Scheme

- Aims to encourage more young people into HE.
- Brings together universities, FE colleges, other partners into local networks to provide coordinated outreach to schools & colleges.
- Involves 200 universities and FECs through 35 local and 3 national networks
- Website: <http://www.hefce.ac.uk/sas/nngo/>

The purpose of the Evaluation

- To assess their value, beyond existing activity, in terms of enabling co-ordinated, efficient and effective outreach with schools and colleges.

A qualitative study characterised by:

- Breadth (all Networks) and depth (case studies),
- A two-strand design to reflect the two-fold focus of the study (evaluation and support)

Evaluation design – 3 stages

Stage 1: Scoping (Feb-Mar 2015)

- All Networks
- Baseline data collection (survey)
- Email and phone follow-ups

Stage 2: In-depth evaluation (May-June 2015)

- Case Studies x 10

Regional Workshops

Stage 3: Final data collection (April-June 2016)

- All Networks and Case Studies

National Workshop

Final report - December 2016

S
U
P
P
O
R
T

Support we offer networks

- Support from experienced researchers via email/telephone
- Support via project website – sharing of resources/toolkits, ‘best practice’, etc.
- Workshop activities
- Online forum for:
 - Exchange of ideas/information
 - Facilitating peer support and sharing ideas/issues
 - Answering queries

Next steps

- Completion of case study data collection Stage 1
- Ongoing support activities
- Updating website and forum
- Sharing resources
- Interim report to HEFCE
- Website: <http://nncoevaluation.co.uk/>