

NEON Mature Student Working Group

Monday 15th October 2018

University of Leicester

Agenda & notes

13.00 Arrival and refreshments

13.15 Introductions & summary of expertise

Charlotte	Barratt	Widening Participation Officer	University of Leicester
Joe	Cotton	Student Recruitment Officer	Wolfson College, Cambridge
Lucy	Carswell	Widening Participation and Outreach Coordinator	University of Surrey
Ben	Rutter	Funding Information Partners Account Manager	Student Loans Company
Oliver	Rossetti	Senior Recruitment Coordinator	CU Coventry (part of the Coventry University Group)

13.30 What is on offer to prospective mature students? – addressing the recruitment gap

We discussed the routes that mature students take to get to HE and the support that is given at the current time from our respective institutions.

- Word of mouth advertising – talks for the Armed Forces; mature learner café
- Local colleges – Access to HE courses: information advice and guidance; progression programmes; workshops; linking into local college events; subject tasters; e-mentoring
- Prospective students – study skills programmes (6 weeks before start of term, evenings); events; welcome events

14.30 Break

14.45 What specific support is available for current mature students? – addressing the retention gap

- Welcome/transition events
- Mature learner meet ups
- Space on campus
- Mature student ambassadors
- Tailored advice – newsletters; virtual spaces

15.45 Summary of the meeting and action plan for next meeting

Questions to be considered –

1. What have the 21-25 age group been doing in between education and HE?
2. Where do our EU and International mature students come from?

Explore the possibility of the Student Loans Company hosting an online virtual mature student open day – joint university collaboration for content and online chat facility.

16.00 Close and delegates depart