

# NEON Working Group

## Access and outreach for disabled learners

### 06 November 2020

#### Chat Feature

09:55:18 From Maria-Anna : Morning everyone - thank you for joining us for the working group meeting today

09:57:15 From Kevin : Morning Everyone!

09:57:56 From Maria-Anna : Hi Kevin

09:58:15 From victoria ball : Morning. Looking forward to those SFE updates :)

09:59:28 From Laura Cragg (The University of Manchester) : Morning Kevin!

09:59:46 From Maria-Anna : Hi all, we are just waiting for a few more people to join us, thank you

09:59:57 From Roisin Kendall : Good Morning everyone

10:00:10 From melanie thorley : Morning folks

10:00:43 From Luke Gordon-Calvert : Good Morning

10:01:04 From Steve Lee : Hi

10:02:06 From Yvonne Drakeley : Hi8 Everyone, I'm new to this Working Group. I'm the Disability Careers Adviser at Lancaster University.

10:02:23 From Maria-Anna : Welcome Yvonne!

10:02:23 From Alex Sparrow : Good morning everyone

10:02:56 From Claire Zilkha : Good Morning Everyone

10:04:37 From Luke Gordon-Calvert : Hi. I did attend a face-to-face meeting (what's one of those?) a loooong time ago and I'm returning now as my role is now looking at access for disabled students. I'm a Senior Widening Access Officer at Uo Derby.

10:06:00 From Natasha Neale : i have no sound guys, so i'm going to leave and pop back

10:08:48 From Natasha Neale : still have no sound. going again to ring my ITS dept. sorry! hopefully back soon

10:10:43 From Maria-Anna : no oh Natasha!

10:10:57 From melanie thorley : As most of you are new faces for me, I am Melanie Thorley, disability outreach officer (STAART Manager) at the University of Greenwich

10:11:35 From Maria-Anna : Hi Melanie

10:16:44 From Jamie Bytheway : where is the blue curve Kev out of interest (hoping not NW!)?

10:17:00 From Peter Riley : Sure Borris showed that chart at his briefing this week!

10:23:02 From Natasha Neale : oh crikey!

10:24:11 From melanie thorley : Wilson, L. & Martin, N. (2018) Models of Disability affect Language: Implications for Disability, Equality and Inclusivity Practice. Journal of Inclusive Practice in Further and Higher Education. Issue 10.1. pp. 4-19. Word Download <https://nadp-uk.org/winter-2018/>

10:24:47 From melanie thorley : The above paper explains why we need to say disabled students and not students with disabilities.

10:26:26 From Joni Chase : Thanks Melanie!

10:32:08 From Jamie Bytheway : thanks Melanie this is really helpful :)

10:40:34 From melanie thorley : On the disability champion point - we have had disabled student ambassadors (formerly \*AccessAbility ambassadors and now STAART ambassadors) since 2007. I can confirm they are probably our most impactful and successful mechanism

10:40:58 From Shannen Dabson : That was really insightful, thanks George!

10:41:05 From Dawn Procter : Thanks George - are you able to share the presentation

10:41:11 From Kate Le Cocq : Really useful - thank you!

10:41:18 From Roisin Kendall : Thanks really helpful

10:41:19 From Scott Henderson : Thank you, really useful

10:41:29 From Alexander Hall (he/him) : Thanks George

10:41:30 From Laura Cragg (The University of Manchester) : Thanks George - that was great

10:41:36 From Jayne Smith : Thank you!

10:42:33 From George Kenyon : Thank you everyone, I am glad you all found it useful :)

10:42:33 From Nancy Brown : Thanks for this George!

10:42:41 From Alison Jones : I agree - we recruit Disability Champions and ensure we facilitate events together. The most positive feedback we receive from schools/college events is being able to hear from current students about their experiences.

10:42:51 From melanie thorley : I am muted

10:43:32 From Jamie Bytheway : The full report can be read here for those of you who are interested: <https://gmhigher.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Disabled-learner-consultation.pdf>

10:43:49 From Joni Chase : Thanks Jamie

10:45:09 From Roisin Kendall : Thanks Jamie is it possible to share care experienced consultation

10:46:09 From Jamie Bytheway : Hi Roisin, it's here: <https://gmhigher.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Care-Leaver-Consultation-report.pdf>

10:46:54 From Jamie Bytheway : we've a whole section on our website about support for targeted learner groups including IAG booklets so please feel free to share these: <https://gmhigher.ac.uk/targeted-learners/>

10:47:52 From Katrina Welsh : that's fabulous Melanie !

10:47:52 From Kelly Self - Hepp : Thanks Jamie and George. Great reading. We have recently held a CPD event at Hepp and 35 staff members from schools attended from Sheffield City Region. Not huge but a lot better than previously the take up was. Originally we were planning just SENDCos but decided actually we need to get all school staff to attend as students will bond with different people so we need to inform everyone.

10:48:15 From Roisin Kendall : Thanks Jamie that is fab!

10:48:28 From Maria-Anna : Melanie, Jamie and MMU team are kindly running a training day for NEON on 10th December. For more information - <https://www.educationopportunities.co.uk/events/improving-access-and-outreach-programmes-for-disabled-learners>

10:48:55 From Joni Chase : Absolutely Kelly - it's not just Careers Advisers but SENCOs and teachers that need CPD

10:50:05 From Jamie Bytheway : That's great Kelly- we run a CPD event every December called Breaking Barriers and get about a similar number of attendees, but like you say we need to reach all touchpoints not just the people who's job it is on paper!

10:55:14 From Luke Gordon-Calvert : Really interesting stuff, Melanie, thank you!

10:55:48 From Joni Chase : [https://www.policyconnect.org.uk/sites/site\\_pc/files/apdf\\_ raa40680\\_i\\_pc\\_i\\_disabled\\_students\\_inquiry\\_report\\_screen\\_reader\\_version\\_i\\_djl\\_i\\_f\\_ raa.pdf](https://www.policyconnect.org.uk/sites/site_pc/files/apdf_ raa40680_i_pc_i_disabled_students_inquiry_report_screen_reader_version_i_djl_i_f_ raa.pdf)

10:57:13 From Joni Chase : First recommendation from this report - A senior leader in every HEP, such as a Pro Vice Chancellor, must take on the responsibility and accountability for driving change to improve the experiences of disabled students attending their institution.

11:00:55 From Anna Wooley : Apologies, I have to go to another meeting. Thanks to the speakers - it's been really informative and useful!

11:02:02 From Maria-Anna : Thank you for join us today

11:04:07 From melanie thorley : MyStudyBar

11:07:45 From Roisin Kendall : Q. Sorry I have a small outreach team of 1 and we have struggled to offer outreach support for disabled students - what do members recommend we can do as a starting point..thanks

11:11:05 From Jamie Bytheway : Hi Roisin- we have quite a big programme in Greater Manchester but we do this collaboratively across the local HEIs so this reduces the contribution from individual HEIs (we've always done it like this since AimHigher for DL and Care-experienced

students)- perhaps you could approach your local uniconnect about this? Plus as Maria-Anna mentioned we're running a NEON training session about this on 10th Dec :)

11:11:43 From Roisin Kendall : Great thanks Jamie

11:49:02 From melanie thorley : Disability Rights UK have excellent resources

11:49:16 From Kelly Self : We have lots of video clips and resources on our website  
<https://www.hepp.ac.uk/who-are-you/disabled-learners/>

11:49:49 From Jamie Bytheway : <https://gmhigher.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/GMH-Disabled-Learners.pdf>

11:50:06 From Joni Chase : Thanks Melanie and Kelly

11:50:10 From Joni Chase : And Jamie

11:51:24 From Alison Jones : I'm in the process of updating our evaluation forms for events. I wondered if anyone would be happy to share their evaluation forms for Outreach events for school/college students, including online events, please?

11:53:24 From Claire Zilkha : Apologies, I need to leave to attend another meeting now. Nice to virtually meet you all.

11:53:39 From Peter Riley : Thanks Claire

11:53:58 From Jamie Bytheway : Thanks Claire!

11:54:05 From melanie thorley : Dani - I have a photo of Stormzy in nearly all of my presentations. A young, black male describing his experiences of depression is very powerful

11:55:05 From Dawn Procter : Its been so nice to see so many other professionals from the sector. I wonder if it would be useful to add our role and org next time we join

11:55:08 From Roisin Kendall : Thanks very useful everyone

11:55:08 From Joni Chase : Thank you all

11:55:12 From Nancy Brown : This was very useful thank you all!

11:55:14 From Kelly Self : Thank you really useful

11:55:15 From Jayne Smith : Thank you all!

11:55:15 From Kate Le Cocq : Thank you, it's been great

11:55:19 From Alex Sparrow : Thanks everyone, it's been really useful

11:55:23 From Shannen Dabson : Thank you!

11:55:26 From Alexander Hall (he/him) : Thank you! Very useful!

11:55:26 From Maria-Anna : Thank you Peter!

11:55:28 From Yvonne Drakeley : Thanks & Bye

11:55:35 From melanie thorley : Thanks all