

Abstract

This poster defines personal tutoring training, highlighting its effectiveness for graduate apprentices balancing work and study. Three case studies explore common challenges: work emergencies, transition to university (work-life balance and time management), and reserving university study time. For each of these scenarios, tutor support and preventative strategies discussed. Insights from newly appointed academics and programme directors recommend regular meetings, mentor guidance on time dedication, encouraging use of university resources and proactive tutee communication with personal tutor and mentor. In summary, personal tutoring nurtures the learners' skills and experience for empowering their growth and contributing to a more sustainable educational future.

Description

This poster showcases the outcome of personal tutoring training that was designed and held at Heriot Watt university explaining what personal tutoring is, and, equally importantly, what it is not. It underscores the effectiveness of personal tutoring as a vital support mechanism for graduate apprentices balancing the demands of their work and academic studies. Through three illustrative case studies, the poster explores common topics and challenges that arise in the personal tutoring relationship such as managing unforeseen work emergencies, transitioning to university life (with a focus on work-life balance and time management), and effectively utilizing dedicated university time (release days and additional study hours). For each scenario, the poster examines the core issues, the ways in which a personal tutor can provide support and guidance, and the development of preventative strategies. This exercise, conducted with new academics and programme directors, aimed to capture their insights and prepare newly appointed academics for potential challenges. Key recommendations emphasise the value of regular tutor-tutee meetings for early intervention, the crucial role of mentors in fostering a dedicated learning environment for apprentices, encouraging apprentices to leverage available university resources, and, most importantly, the need for proactive communication with tutor and mentor when seeking help. Ultimately, the poster champions personal tutoring as a nurturing scheme for learning and empowering the growth, success and sustainable educational development.

References

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