

Project Name: Using Employer and Teacher Partnerships to Develop the 14 – 19 Curriculum

Amendment History:

Version No.	Date	Reason for Amendment
		New proposal

Project Manager

Chris Robertson

Document Distribution

<i>Name</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>Action/Information</i>
Chris Robertson	UW	Head of Education	Overall project manager
TBD	UW	Education department	To be involved with the project on appointment
Bob Parker	LLN	Lead for Progression and Student Support	Involved in project
Debbie Lambert	LLN	Manager of the LLN for H&W	Information
Geoffrey Elliott	UW	Members of LLN steering Group	To approve project
Gail Rothnie	UoB		
Mike Rookes	OU		
Ian Peake	HCT		
Chris Morecroft	WCT		

Background

The introduction of the government's 14-19 Education and Skills agenda, in particular the Diploma, has implications for teacher training and continuous professional development because of the different demands placed on learning and teaching. It will also require discussions and cooperation between schools, higher education and employers all of whom will be involved in helping to deliver the Diplomas. The employer involvement could involve hosting a placement, mentoring and/or teaching.

The government White Paper (14-19 Education and Skills February 2005) states; 'Employers will lead in the design of Diplomas and higher education will also have an important role to play'

The project manager is a member of the strategic Worcestershire 14-19 Consortia Group and is currently on a small working group which is considering the implications of the introduction of the new Diplomas.

Objectives of the Project

- To identify the nature and characteristics of the Diploma teacher
- Create guidelines to assist teacher recruitment and training
- Raise awareness of the Diploma with employers, schools and higher education

Project Approach

Creation of a small project working group involving UW PGCE tutors, head teachers from schools and employers. This working group will coordinate research and survey activity, the analysing of data and the production of reports.

The group will link with existing groups of employers, head teachers to assess teacher requirements for the delivery of the Diploma. A series of focus groups will be set up to collect additional data through informal yet guided questioning.

Members of the project working group will act as facilitators of the focus groups.

Scope:

A Key Products from the project

- Raised insight into the new Diploma for the employers
- Identify committed employers
- Creation of a framework for recruitment of teachers for both schools and teacher training
- Report for the Worcestershire Consortia working group, HWLLN and academic paper

B Out of Scope

- Staff development or dissemination outside the reports identified above
- Not involving Herefordshire (see benefits below)

Constraints

Time to carry out the research, particularly with the other time commitments of key partners. The time scales for the introduction of the new Diploma (first delivery starts September 2008) also places imperatives for immediate actions.

Initial Project Case

Support is sought to provide funds for the release of staff to engage in facilitating focus group meetings, analysis and evaluation of data and the production of appropriate reports. In addition, travel and hospitality for the research required with focus groups and incidental administrative costs.

Benefits of the Project

Schools and employers

- Identify the characteristics of the Diploma teacher to aid recruitment and teacher training

- Explore the implications of the 14-19 Diploma and in so doing engage employers more closely with activity

14-19 Students

- More effective delivery of the Diplomas once data about characteristics have been implemented into recruitment and training of teachers
- Potentially students better prepared for entry into HE

UW/Education

- Raise awareness of the Diplomas to HE staff
- Influence future thinking and actions
- Influence future trainee recruitment
- Can be applied to current cohorts, who may start teaching in September 2008

LLN

- Meets our outcome measure to facilitate the involvement of HE in the 14-19 Diploma development
- Encourages employer engagement
- Report can be made available to the LLN (especially Herefordshire)

Dissemination of the information generated will be achieved through a wide variety of sources. Eg UCET, TDA, national LLN, LSC

Key Assumptions

That project team members will have time and willingness to be involved with the project.
That sufficient employers can be involved in the focus groups and project working group.

Costs

£5,000

How will the project be evaluated?

Evaluation will be against the project objectives, but will also be judged by the impact on employers, schools and the university. The project is very likely to stimulate further activity amongst the constituencies involved and this will also give an indication of the effectiveness of this project.

How will the project be sustained?

Although this project is effectively 'stand alone' it will inform and influence future activity and therefore:

- Implementation of the information generated by the constituencies will sustain the activity
- Evidence of changes in practice will also take the agenda further
- Ultimately the Worcestershire 14-19 Strategic Forum will continue to pursue the agenda

Initial Risk Log

The following table summarises the risks that have been identified that may prevent the project being completed to the required quality, budget and timescale. The probability and impact of each risk has been graded as low, medium or high to indicate the relative importance attached to each element of risk.

Risks	Probability	Impact	Containment Plan
Worcester Consortium Working group haven't time to make it a priority	L	L	Project team created can do the work
Employer availability	M	H	A variety of sources both inside and outside the university to invite employers to be involved – EBP, UW Enterprise Unit for example
Project team time constraints	M	H	Fund time release and/or draw from existing capacity
If project grows as a result of results generated	L	L	Review project and consider a new or revised project from additional resources
Loss of project leader	L	L	Suitable replacements available in existing UW capacity

Project Team