

Blended Learning

Lee Rogers - Director

Progression 2



Progression 2 History

- Private training provider based in Hatfield
- Started in 2007 as a Learndirect centre
- Joined forces with Oaklands College in 2011
- Continued online learning and sourced direct products
- Started with Adult Literacy and Numeracy and IT, but embraced Functional Skills in 2012
- Used the same online courses for delivery, created new assignments with problem solving elements

Blended Learning Courses

- Functional Skills Maths and English from EL3 through to Level 2
- IT Level 1, ECDL Essentials
- IT Level 2, ECDL Extra
- Food Safety Level 2, Health and Safety and other low funded courses which offer learning and examination on line (loss leaders)
- Blended learning offers flexibility, confidence and self paced learning for students

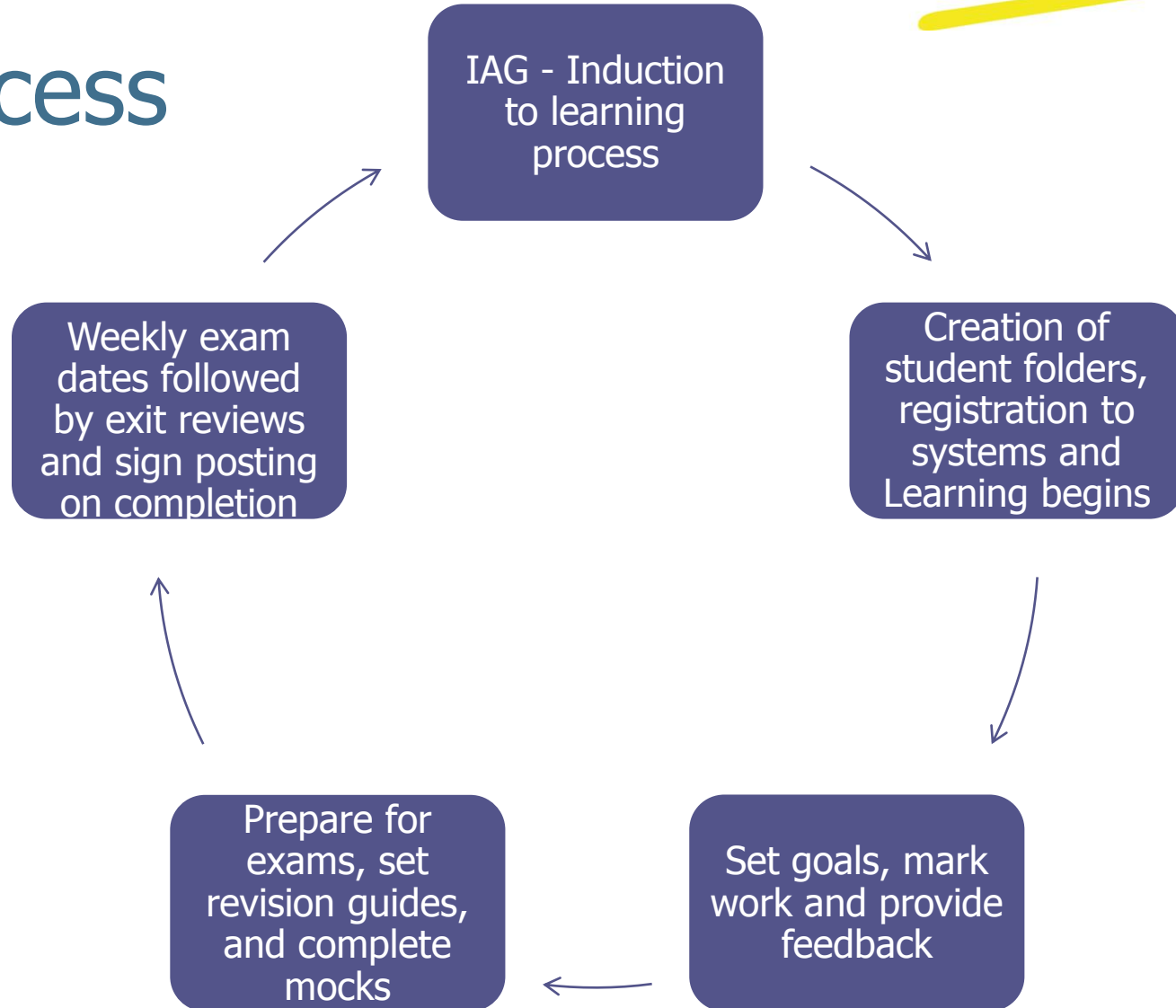
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Success Rates for Blended Learning

Subject	Ach.	Suc.	Nos.
English EL3	100%	100%	4
English Level 1	66%	60%	25
English Level 2	78%	72%	30
Maths EL3	100%	100%	4
Maths Level 1	83%	83%	30
Maths Level 2	90%	90%	21
IT EL3	98%	96%	45
IT L1 ECDL Essentials	91%	83%	36
IT L2 ECDL Extra	98%	84%	46

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Process



Preparing the Tutors

- All tutors are encouraged to complete the online learning and assignments themselves to gain familiarity
- Tutors are asked to specialise in one area of learning so that help is available if required
- One to one sessions can also be booked with specialist tutors as required
- Close early once a week for staff training to take place. Allows sharing of good practice and discussions of problem areas

Benefits to students

- Completely different from classroom learning environment – no pre-conceived barriers
- Self paced learning no peer pressure
- If they miss a session they do not miss learning, the course waits for their next login
- Offers flexibility, days and sessions can be booked to suit, but require 3 sessions a week
- Learn and revise from any broadband location
- Rolling start and end dates no need to wait for course starts or exam dates.

Student's Feedback

Helpful Staff; I loved the fact that I set my own pace with the work and it also pushed me to study at home as well.

Excellent experience, learning in a relaxed atmosphere.

I have really enjoyed my time at Progression 2, the course tutor has been really helpful and supportive.

A great learning experience and style that has given me more confidence in my abilities to progress. I shall be continuing with more learning skills as a result.

Problems with Blended Learning

- Funding regulations make it very hard to deliver in the way it should be available to learners
- Therefore close control must be maintained by tutors to meet funding rules
- Constantly changing subjects for tutors can be challenging
- Keeping track of learners can be problematic, a robust system needs to be in place
- Support must be proven and we are constantly asking students to confirm that learning has taken place in the form of tests and assignments

Summary

- Blended learning is a innovative and independent way for students to learn
- However, it relies on self motivation and the learner buying into their learning experience
- Difficult for tutors to support without the right framework and expertise
- Monitoring attendance and progress is more difficult
- Current funding structure is inflexible for this type of learning

Any Questions

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