Using the google site, 'MyProfile' to engage students on the English Programme with PPDP'

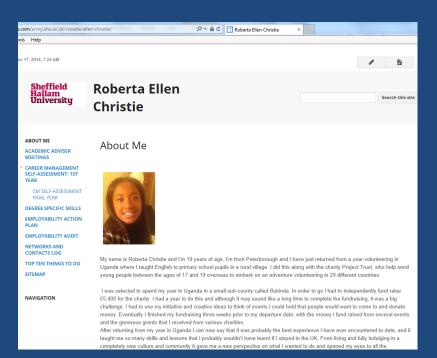
A google site bringing together student, Academic Advisor and all learning experiences.

Capturing contacts, conversations, decisions and signposting.

A developmental tool to enable students to record their employability skills, to identify gaps, and to action plan to enable them to move forward.

Editing and sharing with staff and employers.

Consolidating reflection.



How achieved?

Rationale

- Non-vocational students need PPDP focus across years
- Academic Adviser staff need framework

Operational management

- Site designed with D&S E-learning support
- Trialed on an 'engaged' level 6 student for feedback
- Launched at departmental meetings and Away Day
- Training offered to staff
- Induction week captured 140/170 1st years- supported by staff
- Follow up PPDP in CORE module lecture and computer workshop

What happened? Nice idea but...

- Students did not engage after initial induction and lecture/computer workshop
- Some Academic Adviser staff engaged but struggled with technology Student quotes-

'MyProfile is a bit clunky whereas LinkedIn is really easy.'

'I don't really understand it and I have my own ways of recording my development/progression.'

'It is a good idea in theory but not in practice.'

'MyProfile doesn't seem to draw people in.'

Staff quotes-

'If students aren't engaging with the process, I doubt that the software is the issue. MyProfile is an excellent tool.'

Positives-Students able to record thoughts without being on public view.

Source: Google doc and paper based survey to staff: 10 respondents Google doc. Survey to students 3 respondents Focus group 1 attendee

Analysis

- The benefits of <u>multinked com</u> are more obvious to students e.g. networking, job-hunting.
- LinkedIn is easier to use.
- Staff view that student engagement is issue rather software.
- Google site was too many clicks away.
- Ethical question of forcing students to have online profile.

Advice and recommendations

- Use existing platforms swimming with the tide
- Compromise on developmental issues?
- Linkedin.com has real world currency and university uptake
- Academic Adviser role needs support
- Digital Footprint- not ethical to enforce

 Alternative CV concurrent option
- <u>https://www.linkedin.com/in/robertachristie</u>
- <u>https://www.linkedin.com/pub/sian-</u> hodkin/68/890/298