

PACE North East Meeting Minutes

Bradford College Thursday 13th November 2014

Attendance:

M. Burke, L. Sales, M. Benson Smith, J. Armstrong, S. Kenyon, A. Doyle, A. Dawes, D. Sinclair, A. Cheetham, H. Lomas, J. Atack, G. Schofield, J. Russum, A. Colley, M. Webster, a. Colley, P. Maude, E. Wynn

Present for delegates

Russums - show casing their new range of chefs' jackets.

Major International - show casing their range of stocks and sauces and the range of competition work they support.

Welcome reception

Sue Kenyon – welcomed delegates, and explained that the PACE plan is to have a stronger voice in the Regions with more regular meetings and support for Colleges.

Geoff Booth sent his apologies as he was unable to attend on this occasion.

The dates of 12th and 13th March 2015 were announced as the PACE National Conference dates at the East Midlands Conference Centre, Nottingham University. The format has been amended in response to feedback from delegates.

Thursday 12th will be a networking event and Friday 13th will be the conference main conference agenda. The annual Gala Dinner and Awards will be held on the Friday evening. Information will be sent to Colleges in the very near future.

Welcome to Bradford College

Hayley Lomas welcomed the NE delegates to Bradford College, describing their journey for the last two years, since she has been in post. Over the summer of 2014 the College has moved from five buildings into a single purpose built one, which opened in September, Prior to the end of September, the College welcomed Ofsted through their doors! The College was awarded a Grade 2 "Good". The building has been designed to be flexible This was proved because on the day of the NE meeting, the colleges Chief Executive and other colleagues abseiled down the inside of the building for Children in Need.

The building has many open plan spaces; with staff based in large multi team rooms.

The Hospitality and Travel team has seen growth within the last 2 years. It was reported that the department is in the process of negotiating taking over the colleges Catering service, and already runs a large portion. Food is purchased using TUCO. The college has also achieved Silver accreditation and an AA rosette from People 1st.

Andy Doyle People 1st

Andy talked about the college accreditation scheme. A couple of colleges in attendance had been through the process and shared their experiences.

Adrian Dawes form Selby College winners of Pearson Further Education Team Award

Adrian provided a comprehensive account of their recent experience in winning the National Pearson's Team of the year. He explained how a team ethos and a clear vision had helped them achieve their goal ahead of their target, highlighting how they achieved recognition, by all pulling together, from the cleaners, to the teaching staff.. Students acknowledged the support they got from the team. It was heart-warming to hear about their successful journey.

Martin Webster Nestle Torque D'or

Entries are now being taken for the 2015 competition. Teams of three are invited to submit their paper entries. Heats are taking place in six regions, with the winners from each heat going through to the National competition centre to take part in a number of different challenging events.

Delegates heard from Paige, a student, who last year got through to the final, and shared her experiences.

Darrin Sinclair City and Guilds

Darrin provided an overview of funding, highlighting what C&G were doing to respond to the changes. The rate for full-time 16 and 17-year-olds will not be confirmed until spring 2015 but the hope is clearly that it stays at £4,000 for stability - This is not certain.

The GCSE maths and English rates (£480 each) and the full-time 18-year-old rate (£3,300) for 2015-16 are all now fixed.

There is classification both on which qualifications which meet the GCSE condition of funding (and thus exempt students) and on which students will be counted for the large programme factor to be introduced in 2016-17.

From August 2014, it became a condition of funding that all full time students aged 16 to 19 (and up to age 25 for high needs students) without an A*-C in either maths or English need to continue to study those subjects.

All full time students enrolling on a 16 to 19 study programme in 2015/16 with a grade D in maths and/or English GCSE must be enrolled on a GCSE course in that subject. Students with a grade D who are not enrolled on GCSE courses will not generate any funding in the 2017 to 2018 academic year.

The last transitional protection will be paid in 2014-15 and the last formula protection grant payment will be paid in 2015-16.

EFA will issue updated guidance on the controls which should exist in sub-contracts in December.

There are several parts of the December ILR (the R04 return) which are important in future funding including the basic enrolment data, information about GCSEs, large programmes, high needs and free meals. Ofqual's Review of qualifications under Study Programmes – Ofsted's view - too many are being pushed into full time programmes - Yet funding does not really allow for shorter and intense provision

Ofsted have accepted work experience should be a key part of a Programmes Of Study but establishing flexible and supportive employers takes time

Functional Skills “will continue to be one of the types of qualification that learners have available,” according to a newly-published letter from Skills Minister Nick Boles and pledged to work with Ofqual’s to improve elements of the qualification, including branding.

Traineeships – the EFA will monitor data to see how institutions’ intentions to deliver are reflected in performance. I would suggest this could impact on future Ofsted grades.

Take of Traineeships has been slow (AELP believe it should be opened up to more providers – learner eligibility, not quality compromise)

Ainsley Cheetham Funding Expert

Ainsley interjected during Darrin’s presentation supporting what Darrin’s presentation and what colleagues needed to be doing to safeguard their provision and future funding.

Key points were employer engagement, study programmes, maths and English provision.

Questions & Answer

Informal Lunch

Tour of Bradford College David Hockney Building

Next meeting:

Date is to be confirmed, but is likely to be in February at Sheffield College, to include a student’s conference/master classes.