

Blossom Project

Applications

Susi Peacock – Queen Margaret

Regarding staff use of e-portfolios for CPD there is no formal institutional commitment to this. Staff being introduced to the e-portfolio so that they can actually use it for their own CPD and quite a lot of the staff who are aligned to professional bodies for example physios, occupational therapists nurses councilors, they use the e-portfolio because it links to their accreditation to their particular professional body. So they will use it for CPD. some staff are also studying for PhDs and the will use the e-portfolio as part of their PDP and as part of their studies.

David Eddy – Sheffield Hallam

The kind of things that colleagues are recording and developing obviously things like pivotal incidences analysis where things have happened in their teaching and delivery that has been important for them to reflect on and might identify some development needs that they can feed into their staff development plans. Staff are also, on an ongoing basis, developing their HPC profiles that we may be audited by the Health Professions Council from 2010 so staff are busily compiling those just in case we're required to submit those for CPD. One of the nice things about using PebblePad for e-portfolio was that we've actually been able to develop some of these and test them, and actually set up a gateway by which we could submit them to HPC which they thought was a really good way of doing that so we've actually test driven that aspect of it. Peer assessment and review as a radiotherapy oncology team we're all now documenting that process as part of our CPD. and importantly for the people who are doing the peer assessment they get permission to copy it as well so they can utilise it in their CPD portfolios as evidence of that activity as well and not just the person being reviewed.

Staff appraisal is something that people are starting to document and record using PebblePad as well I piloted that as well last year on behalf of the course team and that seemed to work quite well and 2 or 3 people are interested in taking that forward this year so we'll see how that goes.

Sarah Chesney - Cumbria

Within the flourish project we actually looked at 5 areas of activity that we thought an e-portfolio would be useful for, and they are: For supporting professional accreditation with professional bodies so being able to gather evidence within your e-portfolio and to use this to remain either registered or accredited with your professional body. We're also looking at it for recording learning and reflecting upon learning in our post graduate certificate in learning and teaching in higher education that is run at the University Of Cumbria for all new staff with less than three years teaching experience in HE. We also are using it to record learning gained at conferences and sharing this with colleagues we hoped that this would also be part of the team building area of activity that we thought the e-portfolio would be useful for. We're a newly formed university and we have campuses many miles apart we were looking to use the e-portfolio as a way of introducing one another to new colleagues and finally we're looking at it to support the annual appraisal process and thinking of this as a good tool for gathering evidence and demonstrating that you've met some of the objectives set the previous year.

Phil Vincent – York St. John

So some of the possible ways that we're thinking of using the e-portfolio for CPD things like, initial assessment for new members of staff, using profile tool for example. Some planning and setting goals from the outset, again those or for new members of staff tracking any activity in relation to those goals. Possibly evaluation of any training that they go on, internal and external having a preset proforma that they complete at the end of the training activity.

Their annual review, our appraisal process which forms the development and review, Staff could record evidence throughout the year and bring it all together and share it with their line manager at appraisal, we'd also like staff to record their personal journey any critical incidents, any critical friendships that they form whilst at the university, and also the peer observation of learning and teaching which is our academic observation process.

We'd also like to think that staff could use it to record any activities for education and training and skills purposes possible again in our post graduate certificate for academic practice We'd also like staff to possibly record and share their attendance and experiences at conferences and events so that they return back to the institution with what they've gained from the events and feed that back into some sort of central repository. So that staff can see who's been to what conference and what they gained from it and then hopefully make contact with the person that they're interested in.

Also for possibly for professional accreditation, some members of staff are already using for certain professional bodies and later possibly extend that if some professional bodies are willing to accept PebblePad for e-portfolios as their method of recording evidence. And to have some sort of consistency and collation of staff CVs and so that they have a consistent format that staff can keep updated when ever they need using the e-portfolio account and they have some sort of central way of recording that.

Neil Carrant - Bradford

We're in still quite early days in terms of using e-portfolios for CPD but in terms of staff we've looked at a number of different things we've looked at appraisals but that's been very localised, one of our biggest roll outs at the moment is in NVQs and that's to compile the portfolio of evidence for NVQ qualifications.

We're also using it on management certificate for staff and we're also rolling out a programme called adept which is a whole university staff development programme, which is all online materials and we're using the e-portfolio for that.

Also undergraduate and postgraduate student level we've got a number of courses that are using it for their professional development. Physiotherapy use the professional body use the same system that we have at the university so they're going to be using it for their registration process. Our pharmacy are started to use an e-portfolio to evidence against their professional standards and our midwifery students have been using it for a number of years for professional development, providing evidence for professional development.