

# **E-learning, WBL and other worries!**

**Work-Based Learning Workshop  
Pengelly Room  
Kingston Maurward College  
Dorchester  
3rd June 2008**

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# Project Description:

- The project will develop the blended learning aspects of a new FdA ... aimed at current employers or employees in SMEs. Blended learning is the mode of attendance, aiming to breakdown barriers between traditional and 'new' approaches to delivery .....

# Method

- Re-think
  - VLE use
- Qualitative
  - Informal/unstructured with staff
  - Informal anecdotal with students over 24-months
- Survey
  - Drawn from a wider survey of users experience of Moodle

# Staff Views

- Issues
  - some people look at it in-between & some don't
  - some leave it until assignment time
  - periodically set them something to do as a preparation for the next session which encourages (forces!!) them to use it
  - discussion threads generally not liked
    - leave this until they meet up in the formal college attendance session
  - ***driven*** students to it by giving them a topic

# Staff Views

- Issues
  - students increasingly **expect** to be able to access module materials
  - students seem to prefer to use direct contact through personal email addresses
  - accessing difficulties, little perceived added value in Moodle content, shortage of time, work pressure, easy availability of alternative sources

# Suggestions

- use of forums for topic questions/debate - much could be done here
- online quizzes - automatic marking - constructive feedback
- online tutorials (which can also be booked online and optionally students asked to provide information in preparation for the tutorial)
- provide live information on subject areas with RSS feeds
- live online group discussion

# Students

- Context:
  - All PT @ HE level (n=32; All n=114)
- 72% thought VLE delivered most of their support needs (58%)
- 81% thought VLE was a positive experience (92%)
- 100% find it easy to use (95%)

# But.....

- 72% use it once a week or less (32%)
- 72% said flexibility played no part in their choice (80%)
- 59% said they do not study from home more as a result of access (52%)

# What do they like.....

- Access only when applicable/required
  - Lecture notes      41% (31%)
  - Web-related material      53% (48%)
  - Forums      41% (41% never) (31% - 40% never)

- question then is are we trying to force the use of a VLE