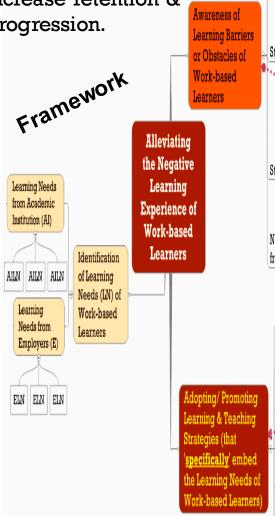
## Aston University

## Employable Maths Communicators: Nurturing the Writing ability of Maths Students

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Aim: To provide practical approaches on how to significantly minimise the negative learning experience of work- based learners, and subsequently increase retention & progression.



Administration poor organisation poor communication b/w lecturers: and b/w institution & employer lack of information delayed response time Communication no involvement of student reps on program planning no contact person for enquiries fragmented structure inconsistent timetable poor planning Structure of Program use of free web resources poor organisation low-level assignments non-challenging program Standard of Program poor feedback delivery poor out-sourced staff program not at degree level Non-usage of VLE from Lecturers/Tutors Implementing more formalised study/ academic writing sessions rather than 'adhocs' Involving Learning Developers in academic module plan and program/ curriculum design Measurable collaborative practice between Students' Employers & Academic Providers Timely & explicit Feedback to the students with substantial link to workplace practice Embedded Teaching Approach b/w schools or faculties/ Cross-school Collaboration Regular Review of Curriculum and in consideration of Learners' feedback/learning experience Enable/ Foster Technology Enhanced Learning

and Tools in Teaching & Learning Process

Rationale: Foundation degree (FD) students/ work-based learners have certain 'academic-related' obstacles or barriers (experienced from their academic institutions) that negatively affect their learning process [1].

Practical & Direct
Approaches: To adopt
and promote the
proposed Teaching
and Learning
Strategies which
integrates Learning
Needs of Work-based
Learners (See Figure/
Framework)

References: 1. Nzekwe-Excel, C. An
Exploratory Study on
the Learning Needs of
Foundation Degree
Students, International
Journal of Learning,
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Method: Semi-structured interviews with FD students & their Academic Providers/ Tutors