

FURTHER EDUCATION: Health / Lifestyle survey - Further Information

Benefits

- Use the data as evidence in SARs
- The information can provide a useful point of reference for the development of action plans
- Assist the implementation of your Every Child Matters (ECM) strategy
- Take into account the students as key stakeholders in the college's ECM framework and action plan
- Contribute to the Joint Area Review
- Help to move your Healthy College project forward
- Cross reference results to your plans and strategies

Comparison

- Compare your results to the wider databank. The database is continually growing as more and more institutions use the survey and the 2006-7 study involved over 5000 students from 34 different FE organisations.
- Comparison can help highlight the impact that current programmes are making on the students who are participating in them. It can also pinpoint areas that are performing well, alongside those that may require further attention or have not yet been considered.
- The ability to benchmark with other organisations and the potential to share good practice has also been considered beneficial.

Survey Method

- The majority of our FE surveys are now carried out online via our partner website at www.healthsurveys.co.uk This method proves very successful for managing large surveys - particularly for institutions with multiple sites. We are able to offer the online survey option at a considerable discount compared to our traditional paper survey method due to its lower running and implementation costs. The only technical requirements are an internet connection and a web-browser.

Other Strategies

Examples of using surveys in Colleges include:

- A College ran a number of mini surveys in an attempt to see if there were notable differences between faculties and/or types of courses beginning studied. This has enabled a range of data comparison options, including - faculty v faculty; faculty v whole college; whole college v wider sample.
- Another College is investigating conducting two surveys, at different times in the year: one survey at the beginning of the academic year and another at the end to see if they can assess the effectiveness of tutorial programmes.

Results & Reports

- When surveys are completed, online co-ordinators have continuous access via the 'Tutors Login' to their survey information. Tutors can then monitor progress, update numbers and view all results.
- An example report is available at www.sheu.org.uk/surveys/fe16plusurvey.htm

Costs

- Costs can vary, depending on the survey method and the amount of design and additional results analysis required.
- As a rough guide current online costs are estimated as:
 - £250 for the health survey without modification
 - this includes a written report and headline summary
 - significant alterations are charged separately

Further Information

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