



Enhancing impact through collaborative partnerships in UK Higher Education

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Collaborative Enhancement Projects





Cause for collaboration

- QAA plays a crucial role in HE across the UK and internationally
- Collaboration and partnership are central to our identity as an agency
- Partnership working is not traditionally seen as a strength of English HE and we sought to challenge this perception



Creating partnerships

- At the beginning of each academic year, QAA publishes a call for CEP proposals. In 2023-24, we received 147 proposals and 18 projects were given the greenlight
- Working closely with Project Leads has resulted in highly effective and lasting partnerships, guaranteeing the project team insights, promotion and reach beyond their networks and enabling QAA to diversify our membership offer
- Internal metrics indicate a real appetite for these kinds of projects and the associated communities of practice that often develop around them



Taking the lead

- Introducing the Student Intrapreneur and Entrepreneur Toolkit and Community of Practice Project, led by Liverpool John Moores University with the University of Chester and Oxford Brookes University
- The importance of establishing true parity among the participating institutions
- Recognising students and alumni as essential stakeholders, the project actively involved them as partners rather than mere beneficiaries
- The project's success was amplified by strategically leveraging the wider academic community, including aligning objectives with national priorities and industry needs



Embedding impact

- This Collaborative Enhancement Project empowers work-based learners to address global challenges and make a significant contribution to societal issues like sustainability, social inequality, and technological innovation
- The project has significantly influenced teaching practices and curriculum development within participating universities, including integration of entrepreneurship education into existing curricula and the adoption of experiential learning models
- By maintaining momentum and adapting to changing needs, the project aims to embed entrepreneurial competencies as a fundamental aspect of work-based learning



Conclusion

- This Collaborative Enhancement Project exemplifies how collaborative efforts can drive meaningful change in higher education
- An emphasis on practical application, community building and shared ownership has enhanced the learning experiences of students and set a precedent for how academic institutions can address complex societal challenges
- The project serves as a model for how higher education institutions can collaborate to empower students to become agents of change, equipped to tackle the complex challenges of our world



Thank you

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