A non-deficit approach to BTEC students in supporting transition into Higher Education: an evaluation of a peer mentoring programme.



Rosalind Lord Learning Development Lecturer



A non-deficit approach to BTEC students in supporting transition into Higher Education: an evaluation of a peer mentoring programme.

- The Learning Development Lecturer's role & the peer mentoring model
- Evidence of effectiveness
- Challenges





Embedded peer mentoring

- The Learning Development Lecturer's (LDL) role:
 - Embedded learning support: a 'non-deficit' approach which includes peer mentoring
- 1 programme:
 - 83 Level 4 mentees:
 - 46% BTEC
 - 29% A Level
 - 15 Level 5 mentors:
 - 47% BTEC
 - 40% A Level





Aims of the transition model

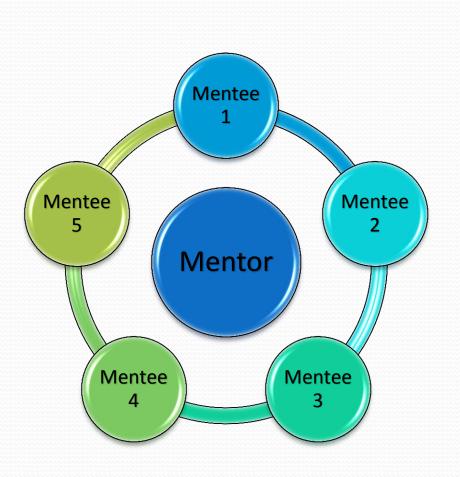
- Mentees:
 - Inclusivity: opt-out model
 - Settling in: risk factors

- Mentors:
 - Employability & personal development
 - Minimum time commitment due to existing external commitments:
 - 55% jobs > 11 hours/ week
 - 18% jobs > 20 hours/ week





The opt-out transition model



March -April

- Recruitment of mentors
- 1st mentor training session

September Induction Fortnight

- Mentor- mentee email contact
- Mentor-mentee 1st group meeting: setting in
- 2nd mentor training session

Semester

- Mentor-mentee group 2nd meeting: reading
- Mentor-mentee email contact (& additional meetings if preferred)

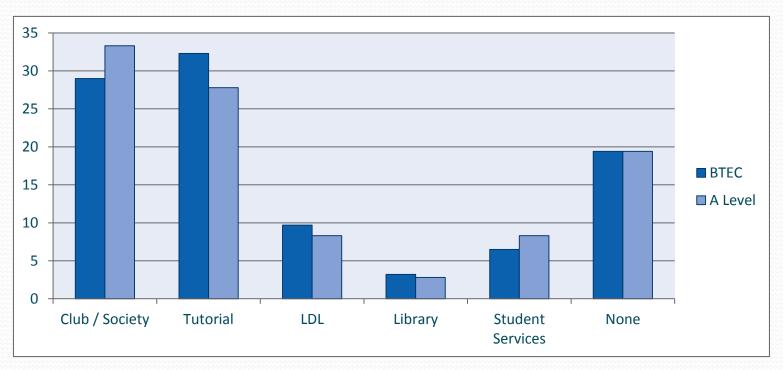
Christmas
– Jan/Feb

- Christmas break email message
- Evaluation survey



Evidence of effectiveness: settling in

- Survey data mentees: 59% response rate
 - 47% BTEC
 - 45% A Levels
- Services used (%):

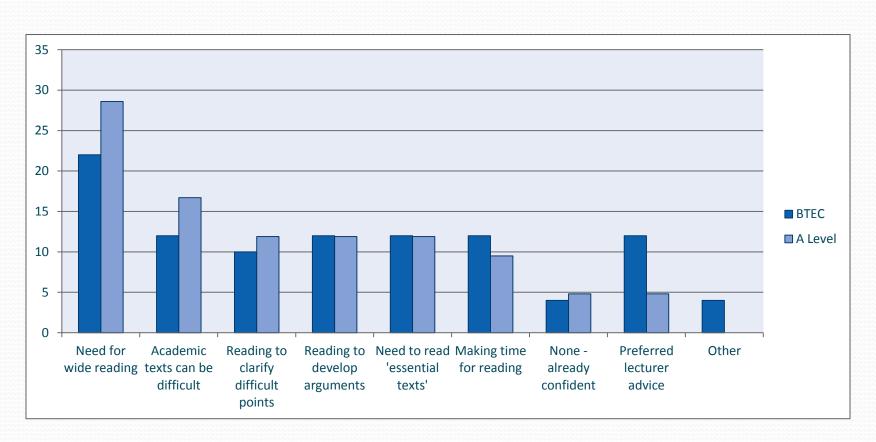


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Evidence of effectiveness: academic transition

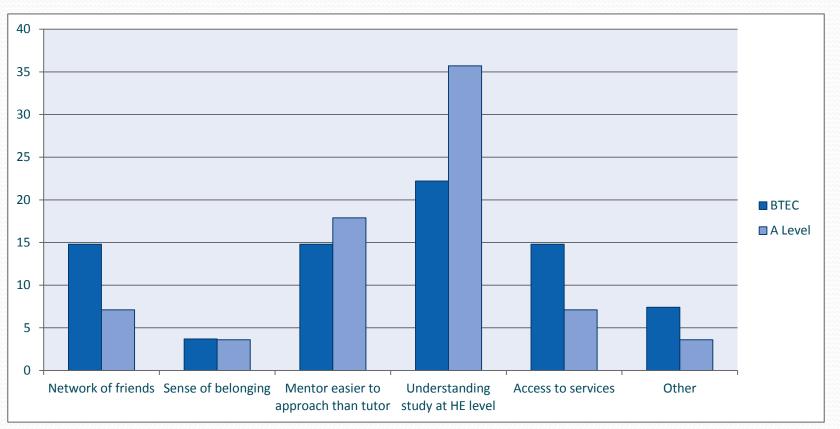
Reading advice received by mentees (%):





Did mentees value peer mentoring?

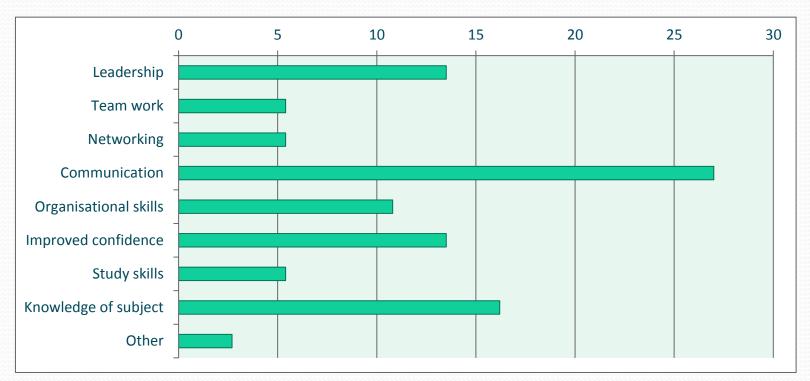
- 74% BTEC & 75% A Level
 - Benefits (%):





Did mentors value peer mentoring?

- 100% mentors
 - Skills gained (%):







Challenges

Data: retention & achievement

Withdrawn students	
1st March 2016	1 st March 2017
20%	13%

- Challenge barriers to learning:
 - Descriptive data = evidence of mentors' & mentees' academic experience