

Pre-entry Transition to Brunel: Supporting BTEC students

HeadStart week aims to support Widening Participation students with their transition to studying in Higher Education the week before 'Fresher's week'. HeadStart provides students with the opportunity of meet other new students, get to know the campus, meet individuals from different services and gain an introduction to study skills they will need during their time at Brunel.

All new incoming foundation and level 1 BTEC students are invited to attend HeadStart. Throughout the week students recorded what they found most valuable, whether their perceptions of HE are changing and their reflections of the week overall.



Key Findings

- There is a dip in results on each Tuesday but this is consistent for both BTEC and A Level students
- BTEC students rate themselves very highly
- The awareness what was expected and the preparedness for learning is evident for BTEC students but more should be done to investigate what should be done after HeadStart
- Both A Level and BTEC students benefit from the being taught the same study skills sessions and they both clearly find them valuable
- Certain online resources could be developed to target certain students at certain times of the year as part of a 'long thin induction'

Comparing quantitative BTEC and A Level responses to HeadStart Evaluations

