

Using Panopto (Lecture Capture Software) for Assessment of Practice of Teaching and Teachers Reflecting on their Own Practice

Teachers on postgraduate specialist inclusion courses are required to have observation of their practice of teaching and assessment. Many of these teachers are distance learners so it was not practical for a tutor to visit these teachers in person. The lessons that the teachers undertake are usually one to one specialist lessons and up to an hour long.

Panopto is available throughout the university, mainly used to record lectures as a tool to support learning but we decided to explore the use of this in an innovative way. The aim was to provide a system where students could upload their recorded lessons securely to the VLE. These could then be viewed by the observation tutor for formative, then summative feedback.

Students are encouraged to use the recorded lessons to reflect on their own practice and evaluations on lessons have improved since students have been using this process. We also decided to use the system as a tool for teaching and learning. Recorded lessons have been shown in face to face sessions for critical evaluation. The system is being used on the Postgraduate Certificate in SpLD (Dyslexia) and Postgraduate Certificate Education (Dyscalculia). The courses are blended courses with a required number of face to face teaching sessions and the additional teaching is online. The teachers on these programmes are nationwide. The courses have external professional accreditation from the British Dyslexia Association. There are 60-80 teachers on the Dyslexia course and they need 4 observations each. There are 15-20 teachers on dyscalculia course who have 3 observations. Observation tutors give feedback on the lesson observations and there is moderation of these by the programme leader and external moderation by the British Dyslexia Association and external examiners.

Panopto has given us the opportunity to streamline the students' workflow, as well as provide detailed, swift feedback, secure access for moderators, a valuable reflection tool for students and a permanent record of assessment for quality assurance.

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