Beyond compliance - innovative approaches to accessibility and inclusive education in VET.

Jen Cousins

Just a thought…

We will know that inclusive education has really become embedded in our culture when the term becomes obsolete.

Michael F. Giangreco

Context

- Standards for RTOs 2015
- Equity Requirements for Higher Education
- DDA and Disability Standards for Education
- Equal Opportunity Legislation
- TAFE SA
  - Strategic Plan
  - Quality Framework
  - Teaching and Learning Strategy
- SA Disability Inclusion Act 2018
- SA Government Online Accessibility Toolkit

Existing Supports and Services

Student Experience Team

- Student Engagement
- Student Services
  - Career Services
  - Counselling
  - Disability Support
- Information & Library Services

Teaching and Learning

Centre for Educator Practice

Where to begin ?

- The student voice / experience

- Establishing agreement about the language and culture of accessible and inclusive education

- Whose job is it anyway?

- Deciding on our non-negotiables

Strategic approaches

- Commitment from the Board/CE

- Compliance – Quality – Innovation

- Recognising all things are connected

Conceptual Frameworks and Critical Thinking

- Student Journey and Experience
- Evidence Based Practice
- Action Based Learning
- Collegial and Partnerships Approach
- Embedded Practice
- Universal Design for Learning

Blue Sky Thinking and Rocky Road Planning

TAFE SA Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2020-2024

- Audit educational policies, procedures and practices

- Data Analytics – Usage and Feedback

- Build Educator Capability

- Accessibility and Inclusive Education Hub

- Promotional Material

  – Accessibility

  – Inclusive Education

  – Universal Design for Leaning

TAFE SA Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2020-2024 (continued)

- Principles and Benchmarked Practice Guidelines for Accessibility & Universal Design for Learning
  - Practice
  - Materials
  - Resources
  - Learning Activities
  - Assessment
- User guidelines about assistive technology and accessibility features of our applications
- Style Guide with embedded benchmarks

Challenges

- Establishing a Baseline
- Determining Benchmarks
- Competing priorities
- Translating to practice
- Rapid Transition to Online
- Public Provider

Intersections with other initiatives

- Embedding accessibility requirements and benchmarks into our Instructional Design Toolkits, Templates and Design Methodology

- Constantly engaging educators about access and inclusion
    - Discussion Topics with Senior Educators
    - Quality Matters
    - Case Studies and Practice Examples
    - Professional Learning

Educator Capability

- Professional Learning Sessions (Monthly) about access, inclusive education and UDL
- Access and Inclusion Discussion Topics
- 'Quality Matters' Articles
- Case Studies and Practice Examples
- eLearning Modules
  - Disability Awareness
  - Supporting Students with Disability in VET
  - Access Plans for Educators

2021 ~~Wish~~ Action List !

- UDL Action Based Learning Projects

- Ally Plug in for our LMS

- Procurement Strategy e.g. resources /assets

- Partnerships
  - National Projects and Presentations
  - Communities of Practice (UDL/TAE)
  - ADCET…AUSTED…ATEND

Questions????

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