

YEAR 10 Activity: Perceptions of higher education

Aim: for learners to talk about how they feel about higher education.

In small groups, get learners to brainstorm what higher education means to them. Each group should come up with five or more statements.

Encourage them to be as imaginative as possible - there are no right or wrong answers.

- Get them to think about what it might feel like to go away to university or college – does it make them feel scared, excited or curious?
- What about all the things they could do there?
- What impressions do they have of life at university or college? Is it just like school?
- What about the social life?

You may want to use some quotes from former students - see Handout - as a starting point.

Debrief: address any key concerns or misconceptions about university or college life; and get learners to think about the social and non-academic benefits.

Learning outcome: that a learner recognise the opportunities and benefits that university or college life can bring.

Links to: PSHE Key Stage 4 -1f

CEG framework Key Stage 4 - 9

Suggested time: 15 minutes



YEAR 10 ACTIVITY: Perceptions of Higher Education

Handout: Quotes from former higher education students:

"Doing a degree gave me loads of confidence - it was the best time of my life."

"At college and university you meet new people and you're open to new experiences. It gives you the time and confidence to develop different areas you may not have considered."

"Medical School life really did live up to my expectations. It is a place to make friends and keep them, and to learn independence and the value of things in life."

"Qualifications aren't everything, but I wanted a good job that was challenging, interesting and more importantly, paid well! Without my degree I wouldn't have managed that."

"My degree's given me a ticket to travel all over the world, and to pursue a career with a job which makes me actually want to get out of bed in the morning."