

Case Study: “You said, We did”: Giving the learners a voice

‘Assessment and learning: involving the learner.’ LSC funded project.

**The context:**

ESPA College is an Independent Specialist Further Education College offering a positive educational experience that prepares both day and residential students for their future life, well-being and work.

The challenge:

Students at ESPA College are encouraged to take an active role in developing the quality of provision offered by the college. At present students have a monthly committee meeting where they discuss ideas and issues which have arose on the college site. Some students felt that this monthly committee meeting was not a prompt response to the issues and suggestions that they were raising.

What we did:

In order to develop the challenge the following actions were taken.

- The current suggestions procedure was reviewed and a survey was devised asking students what they thought of the current suggestions procedure.
- The results of the student survey were analysed for common themes.
- We thought about a way that students would be able to give their views regardless of their functioning ability.
- We considered where would be an appropriate place to put the suggestions.
- What format the suggestions would take eg, a poster, box?
- How would students know that their suggestions had been considered / acted upon?
- What type of time frame should the suggestions and response have?

The outcomes:

As a result of this project we:

- Created a ‘You said, We did’ poster

- Placed the poster in the middle of the student notice board
- Decided that all suggestions would be responded to within 1 week of the suggestion being made.
- Time frames to be given for actions to be completed.

The impact:

Implementing the project enabled us to make the following impacts

- Students have more input into different areas of the college and feel empowered.
- College timetable has been revised after students commented on the suitability of some leisure sessions.
- Students have stated that they feel that they feel more comfortable making suggestions as they know they will be considered.
- Students use this board to give ideas and feedback to and from the student committee.

Next Steps:

- Currently discussing how the learners can further input into the development of college blogs, and news letters.

Supporting information:

- 'You said, we did' poster
- 'You said' slips, 'We did' slips

	<p>For further information contact: Kiera Liddle & Anneliese Mueller</p> <p>ESPA College South Hill 9 The Cedars Ashbrooke Sunderland SR2 7TW</p> <p>0191 5673523</p> <p>kiera.liddle@espa.org.uk</p>
---	--



espa
EDUCATION & SERVICES
FOR PEOPLE WITH AUTISM

Your opinions are important to us as we aim to continually improve the services delivered by the College.

You will find your ideas and concerns below, with the College's actions and responses alongside.

You Said

We Did