

**Preparation for Placement Self Assessment Tool:** <http://ppa.hud.ac.uk/>

## **The background**

Placements are a valuable opportunity - increasingly and more universally relevant as 'employability' becomes politically much more important in Higher Education. They offer a whole new set of challenges for students and staff: we want students to do well, but we do not have the same control over their experience when they are away from the university campus. Whilst universities have made significant progress in supporting diversity following the Equality Act 2010, managing inclusivity in placements is much more difficult.

## **What we set out to do**

To create a self assessment tool that students complete prior to placement experience to reflect on their personal preparation and needs, in order to....

- To facilitate reflective preparation for practice & PDP
- To facilitate risk assessment & disclosure of impairment where appropriate
- To identify strengths & issues in order to action plan

## **How we are doing it**

We had funding from the ALPS network (Assessment and Learning in Practice Settings <http://www.alps-cetl.ac.uk/>), and the University of Huddersfield Teaching and Learning Institute. ALPS focus is health and social care, the additional funding and support has meant we have been able to work across all disciplines.

We created a collaboration of students who we employ on a pay by the hour basis; full time computing students doing a sandwich year in our school plus colleagues with an interest in placements and/ or expertise in disability.

## **What we have created**

- An on-line self assessment tool that gives students individualised feedback on the profile.
- A 'getting to your placement' game
- Resources for exploring finance, culture, personal needs, reflection and impairment/ disability.
- Simple database that could be used by tutors to support student responses

## **Who is it for?**

Anyone who thinks they would find it useful.

- The web access is open to anyone to use and download their feedback
- The creative commons licence means we can give copies to other universities