

Quality Assuring The Accreditation Of Prior Experiential Learning (APL)

The case study focuses upon the way in which the University of Liverpool has built quality assurance mechanisms into formal APL processes. It raises questions about the limits of quality *assurance* tools in meeting student needs and the need to consider ways of building a culture of quality *improvement* in the drive to harness student potential.

The case study describes the way in which APL plays a key role in building individualised pathways for both returners and those new to higher education. It also looks at the way in which the University of Liverpool has developed its APL policy and the questions and issues arising from the process

It illustrates the importance of developing a supportive culture in which APL become embedded and the need to consider a quality improvement, as well as quality assurance, approach to ensure a holistic approach.

The case study includes the University's policy.

Key themes

APL

Quality improvement

Access

Staff development

Carol Stewart/Alison Hughes, University of Liverpool, UK

Email: cmes1@liv.ac.uk / ajhughes@liv.ac.uk