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| **A4 Effective learning environments suggestions** | **Yes/Partly/ No** |
| In this section you explain how you make effective use of formal and informal learning environments to facilitate learning and how you meet the needs of your learners for support and guidance. Select from the appropriate approaches from below or add other examples. | |
| You write about how you manage and adapt the physical environment in your teaching spaces so that they are appropriate for your planned activities and effective teaching of the discipline. (Possible links to A1, A2, K2, K3) |  |
| You explain how you set up and manage virtual learning environments so they support your learners. Examples might include Google classroom sites, Line groups for your students, private Facebook groups for students, other social media. You explain how you monitor these sites and how you know whether they are effective in supporting your students. (K3, K4, V3) |  |
| You identify how you ensure that you work with colleagues, with staff at placement locations/workplaces (if applicable) and students themselves so that learners can access and use a broad range of learning opportunities. A basic example might be that if you have a student with a disability i.e. they found it difficult to climb stairs you would work with admin/timetabling staff to ensure the teaching rooms were accessible e.g. there is a lift or the rooms are on the ground floor. Another example would be that you realise that many of your students are Muslim and need to pray at certain times of the day so you adopt a flexible approach to your teaching in order to allow them the time they need. Assistive technology such as screen reader technology can also be used to support learners with a visual impairment. (V1, V2 and possibly K4) |  |
| You explain how you build a collaborative atmosphere in your teaching spaces through induction/pre-sessional events and warm up/ice breaker activities. How do you know that these are successful? (Links to A2, K2, K3, V2) |  |
| You provide induction, language support for international students and activities which integrate international students with ‘home’ students. (V1) |  |
| You write about how you have written or contributed to student handbooks and guides and/or resource packs. You might also provide students with personal learning plans and you may have provided information in alternative formats (not just written). (K1, V1, V2) |  |
| You show awareness of and understanding issues stemming from the social, cultural and economic diversity of the learners. (V2) |  |
| You explain how you address wicked problems such as sustainability/obesity/ globalisation/ conflict/pollution (interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary approach) within your teaching (making connections for learners), how you develop professional/work-based resources. You write about how students have responded to these initiatives. Were they motivating/effective? (Links to A1, V4) |  |
| You write about how you bring aspects of professional practice/life outside the university into the learning environment, why you do this and how successful it has been. (V4) |  |
| You explain how you try to cultivate a feeling of ‘belonging’ to the university. (the ‘What works’ project identified this as important for student retention and success: See page 14 onwards of the final ‘What works’ report <https://www.heacademy.ac.uk/system/files/what_works_final_report.pdf> (V2) |  |
| You write about how you engage with your students through partnership in the learning process. You discuss learning with them, you seek their advice on curriculum and teaching and identify how this has impacted on the programmes/modules you teach on. (K5, K6, V3) |  |
| You explain where your ideas come from (e.g. reading about what other people have tried, talking to colleagues, attending conferences etc?) You make use of relevant, current and range of literature or other publications which support your assessment and feedback practice. (V3) |  |
| You make use of relevant literature and/or other publications which support your planning and implementation. (V3) |  |
| You make accurate use of citations and academic writing conventions used. |  |
| You have proof-read Section A5 to ensure that explanations of your practice are comprehensible to others. |  |