

RESPONSE TO STUDENT CONSULTATION ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SUBJECT WEBSITE

SUMMARY

This is a response to the consultation on Health and Social Care Subject Website which took place between 8th March 2021 and 22nd March 2021 on the [Health, Wellbeing and Social Care Board of Studies Student Consultative Forum](#).

This consultation was designed to elicit student views about the Health and Social Care Subject Website (<https://learn2.open.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=207002>), which is different to their module website. Students were asked: if they use it (and if not, why not), what they like about it, what could be changed or added, and specific questions about forums and about the careers and employability resources. The forum was moderated by Erica Borgstrom and Lynne Watson (Qualifications Leads for Health and Social Care); Erica Borgstrom has reviewed the feedback.

In total, 11 students responded to the consultation, often providing commentary about their module websites. The Full Response below will focus on what students said about the subject website.

Students said they did not always have the time to visit the subject website given module workloads, and if they did, it tended to be in relation to being prompted to do so by module materials or the module study planner. For October 2021 (21J presentations), we will embed links to the subject site within Health and Social Care modules in the study planners – this will focus on the FutureYOU tool. We will also provide links to the subject site via NEWS items on module sites at key times in the year (start and end of the academic year).

Suggestions for the subject website included providing information for students studying more-than-one module at the same time (e.g. joint study calendar). Joint study calendars will be produced for common Health and Social Care module combinations and will be placed on the subject site for October 2021 start.

No responses were provided about the careers and employability material; therefore, we will need to use other consultation methods to elicit students' views about this element of the website.

Erica Borgstrom and Lynne Watson will follow up these actions within the next six months. The feedback will also be considered in the upcoming Health and Social Care Subject Website re-design.

FULL RESPONSE

You said	OU response	Next steps, if appropriate
I very rarely use the subject site... I am guided there in the activities but not used for any other reason at present	It is useful to know that when embedded in module activities, students visit the subject site.	Provide clear links to the subject site in module materials where relevant (e.g. to FutureYOU tool)
I tend to focus on module materials (paraphrased)	We understand that the subject site is 'extra' to the module materials and during the academic year students will prioritise module sites. We are working on making the subject site more useful and relevant for ongoing support of studies, and to be a space student can use 'in-between' modules.	Provide information to students at several parts during presentation about the subject site and how they can use it to support their studies. Provide ALs/Tutors with information about the subject site (next briefing, May 2021).
I would like to see study planners for module combinations	We agree that these can be useful, especially for planning for one's assessments.	Produce study planners for common module combinations and place on the subject site

Date: 19 April 2021