



Leading the way - Devon County Council

Devon County Council are at the forefront of developing new and innovative ways to serve their students and families across the county; so when they were introduced to InterHigh they immediately saw the potential for our online school to serve a number of young learners who were struggling with full-time attendance within a traditional mainstream setting.

Following a live demonstration of the school to the Head of Virtual School and School Improvement, Dawn Stabb, together with a number of secondary Head Teachers a pilot programme was agreed and launched in September 2015.

In this pilot a school proposes that InterHigh would be the most appropriate provision for a particular young learner. This is then reviewed and the individual student enrolled. They undergo a full induction and orientation and if appropriate a bespoke curriculum plan is agreed.

Progress is shared with the family, school and Devon County Council to ensure that all learners are happy, engaging and making progress within their new school. The broader needs of the young person are also monitored to determine if a transition back into traditional mainstream provision is appropriate and a supported move is undertaken when appropriate.

A review following the first term of the pilot was deemed successful by all and the pilot programme is being expanded this year prior to being fully rolled-out from 2016/17.

Dawn remarked: "Students we referred have taken to this learning environment with ease and have found the online classroom library a valuable reference and revision resource. A number of our young people are now engaging with their learning in a way that would have been unimaginable a few short months ago. For the right student InterHigh offers them the opportunity to take control of their learning and make good progress."

Tom Scott, Director of InterHigh observed "We understand that our school presents the notion of 'school', 'class', 'lessons' and 'teachers' in a fundamentally different way to our students and this allows them to manage or avoid a whole range of circumstances, situations and responses that would otherwise completely undermine their learning. Even if this is just for a short time we can ensure that they are making great progress and able to re-enter a traditional environment without the challenges that even modest disruption to attendance can otherwise bring."

About us:

InterHigh is the only online Independent secondary school in the UK. InterHigh has a 10-year track record of delivering a holistic school environment that has supported our students in making excellent progress and securing outstanding educational outcomes. Over this time we have deepened our understanding of what is required to provide an effective online classroom; technology, content, teaching, interaction, assessment and assignments. We have created an environment conducive to delivering exceptional teaching and learning.