



Learner and Learning Support

Development of a FAQs sheet for prospective learners and families interested in coming to Bromley College

Summary

This FAQs sheet was developed by Bromley College, with support and contribution from other cluster members to provide answers to frequently asked questions (FAQS) for prospective learners and their families. The FAQS leaflet was developed as it became apparent that there were a lot of myths surrounding provision at the local College; for example that students had to be able to travel independently before they would be accepted at college. To coincide with the opening of the new centre at Bromley College, we wanted to produce some ready-to-hand information that could be available for anyone making an enquiry – information in written form that would challenge the prevailing word-of-mouth communications and would prepare families where there are young people preparing for transition.

Developing the FAQs leaflet

All members of the cluster group (local colleges and special schools) were asked to keep a record of the questions most often asked by young people and their families. It had become clear that communications and publicity would be an important factor in changing attitudes amongst some parents, who had previously seen local Further Education college provision as unsuitable for many young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities– the challenge was, and remains, how to promote the strengths and benefits of local provision as a strong, and for many young people often better, alternative to residential placements.

Using the leaflet

The FAQs leaflet will be circulated to schools and also placed on the college website. College Customer Services staff will use it for enquiries. Preparing for Adulthood Co-ordinators will use it with families as an aid in transition planning. Schools will be able to use the leaflet with parents and at information events, helping to position the College as a provider of high quality local provision working in partnership with other providers in the Borough. Information contained in the leaflet will also be used to develop a more comprehensive brochure that will support the Bromley offer

It is intended that the leaflet and the subsequent brochure will help to ensure that the offer at Bromley College is well communicated with clear and positive information but also to promote open discussion amongst parents so that fears and anxieties around transition can be voiced and addressed. The FAQs leaflet will be one of a number of ways in which the cluster will ensure that factual information replaces the myths.