

Standards Unit

IMPROVING DIFFERENTIATION IN BUSINESS EDUCATION

TOPIC 4: DIFFERENTIATION BY ASSESSMENT

PARTICIPANTS' BRIEFING SHEET

Activity 1: Why assess? (1 hr-1 hr,15 mins)

Objectives

- To identify the main reasons why we assess learners and learning.
- To reach a better understanding of terms used to describe forms of assessment.
- To explore how different methods of assessment can be used to identify and/or address individual learners' needs.

Resources

Three different coloured sets of sticky notes (green, pink and blue)

Pens that are easily readable when used on sticky notes

Flipchart paper

White or blue tack

Glossary of assessment terms

Stage 1 (individually) (5-10 mins)

- Wordstorm as many reasons as you can think of why we assess learners and learning.
- Write each one on a separate green sticky note as you go – don't worry about repetition or overlap at this point.

Stage 2 (move into fours) (20 mins)

- Compare sticky notes and add any further reasons for assessment you can think of.
- Now discuss your findings and place your

sticky notes into groups of broadly similar purposes for assessment.

- For each group of sticky notes discuss and agree a set of words that describes the overall main purpose for assessment and write these on a pink sticky note. Be as concise as possible.
- Stick each pink sticky note on a piece of flipchart paper with the associated green sticky notes under the relevant pink one.
- One participant from each group should pin up your flipchart and read out your pink sticky notes.
- Discuss areas of similarity and difference.

Stage 3 (in the same fours) (10-15 mins)

- Consider again the reasons on your pink sticky notes and come up with as many terms as you can for assessment methods that you associate with each of the reasons.
- Note each term on a blue sticky note.
- Stick the blue sticky notes alongside the appropriate group of pink and green ones on your flipchart paper.

Stage 4 (whole group) (15 mins)

- Circulate and look at all the terms on the blue sticky notes.
- Note those that are not clear to you.

The facilitator will then give a brief PowerPoint presentation summing up key aspects of this activity and referring to a sheet listing the terms associated with assessment.