

Standards Unit

IMPROVING DIFFERENTIATION IN BUSINESS EDUCATION

TOPIC 1: WHAT IS DIFFERENTIATION?

PARTICIPANTS' BRIEFING SHEET

Activity 1: Defining differentiation (1 hr, 30 mins)

Objectives

- To explore individual and group understanding of differentiation.
- To identify any obstacles that may hinder differentiation in practice.
- To identify factors that may stimulate differentiation in practice.

Resources

Yellow and green sticky notes

Standard pens

Flipchart pens

Flipchart paper

Stage 1 (individually) (10 mins)

On a yellow sticky note, write your own personal definition of 'differentiation'.

Stage 2 (in pairs, then as a whole table in groups of four or six) (20 mins)

Compare your definition and combine and revise it with your partner. Write this on a green sticky note.

Combine and revise your definition with the group at your table.

Write your group definition on flipchart paper.

Stage 3 (as a whole group) (15 mins)

Display and discuss your group definitions.

Stage 4 (individually) (5 mins)

Identify obstacles that could prevent differentiation in practice in your organisation. Then develop solutions to the obstacles you've identified.

Stage 5 (in groups of 6-8) (15 mins)

Compare obstacles and solutions you've identified and compile two lists on flipchart paper.

Stage 6 (as a whole group) (10 mins)

Compare flipcharts and discuss obstacles and solutions.