

LEARNING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OVERVIEW FORM

Project title	Clinical and experimental medicine: reflection and e-portfolio			Project ID No	CLAD - HIST063
Strategy area/theme	Medical School				
Start date	February 2007	Completion date	October 2010		
Project type	Learner independence project				
Level		Programme of study			
Aims	The Medical School aims to encourage students to become independent, self-directed and reflective learners and to have the skills and attitudes to be effective life-long learners: To help achieve this aim the MBChB programme has developed an enhanced Student Selected Component (SSC) element to the curriculum, in accordance with GMC guidelines. This approach is being rolled out through a phased implementation starting in 2006-07. As part of this initiative the School will develop an appropriate set of processes to deliver an effective self-review process among its students in the form of an e-Portfolio. The e-Portfolio will be developed in partnership with Corporate Services who will provide the technical components necessary to support this process with the Medical School leading the development of the pedagogic framework. The e-Portfolio will primarily provide a means of recording the evidence of the students' growing independence, but also, as importantly, will support the process by which the students develop the necessary skills and attitudes by providing feedback to students to promote self-awareness and learner independence.				
Objectives	To provide structures within which an increase in the level of learner independence can be expected from and evidenced by MBChB students throughout their degree course and when working in the clinical setting. The curriculum vehicle that has been put in place in order to provide this structure (and also adhere to GMC requirements) is an enhanced system of SSCs within the MBChB programme. This project will therefore seek to develop an e-Portfolio that students will use as their primary place to record their 'journey' of learning and reflection. To enable students to develop learning strategies that will support them in the clinical learning environment and continue to meet their needs following qualification; and with confidence in their capacity to learn independently.				

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	To integrate with the current paper based system that requires students to record their learning, both the process and the content, and to support their selection of SSAs and SSMs (a process which is strongly supported by the GMC). It is hoped that following integration the functionality of the e-Portfolio will be developed to such an extent that it will be appropriate to supersede the paper-based system.
	To embed the e-Portfolio tool in to the revamped module Learning Medicine and the new module Integrated Problems, both within the MBChB
	To incorporate good practice into the design of the e-Portfolio, identified as a result of the BEME (Best Evidence Medical Education) Systematic Review of the value of portfolios in undergraduate medical education (currently in progress in the Medical School).
	In incorporating good practise the School should use findings from the implementation of the e-Portfolio in order to contribute to research on the benefits of portfolio learning.
	To respond to findings from the National Student Survey (NSS) by providing students with resources to aid them in their development as reflective learners and thus proving feedback to students to promote self-awareness and learner independence. In developing the e-portfolio the School will try to address any other issues that are highlighted by the 2006/07 NSS which will be incorporated into the Action Plan accordingly where there are opportunities for review.
Further Information	For further information on this project please contact CLAD at University of Birmingham
	cladprojects@contacts.bham.ac.uk quoting CLAD projects HIST063