



Shaping Positive Futures

February 2023



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FUTURE »

HAVING YOUR SAY...

Find out more inside about how you'll be able to share
your views with us.



Shaping Positive Futures Learner Conference 2023

On Thursday, 12 January 2023, 300 of our learners gathered together at the University of Hull to take part in our first ever Trust wide Learner Conference.

The conference was the brainchild of Julia Lovel, Lead Practitioner at Holderness, who is passionate about providing a forum to ensure all our young people have a voice. She was particularly keen

that our learners have every opportunity to engage with each other and so all nine of our schools were represented, along with learners from our four sixth form campuses with the breakdown including 20 from each primary, 30 from each secondary and 15 from each sixth form.

The learners travelled to the conference by coach, were greeted by staff as they arrived and escorted through the university grounds by way of a whistlestop tour of the campus. This helped to set the

aspirational nature of the day. The theme of the conference was Diversity and Inclusion. The event started with a keynote speech by Martin from the Art of Brilliance, who colleagues will remember from our October CPD Event. Martin presents regularly to a wide range of audiences around the world, but admitted to feeling apprehensive before the event, having never delivered a session to such a wide range of ages, from 4 – 18 years old. Learners embraced his message that “...everyone is a somebody.”



To see our delegates, our future leaders, rise to the challenge of the day and make such an impact was truly humbling. It was with great pride and joy we watched collaboration taking place from such a diverse mix of students. We look forward to making this an annual event.” Julia Lovel, Lead Practitioner at Holderness



Each learner received a **Shaping Positive Futures** tote bag, containing an age specific novel on the theme of diversity and inclusion, a notebook, pen and rainbow pencil.

They also received a selection of coloured counters which they were encouraged to swap with other learners over the course of the day as they made new connections, ending the day with a rainbow of different colours illustrating how many new people they had engaged with.

Delegate badges were provided which highlighted which room learners should head to for their workshops. Our youngest children took part in Now Press Play, an award-winning immersive audio resource that engages primary school children in the curriculum through sound, story and movement. These sessions were based around bullying. Older learners took part in a more hands on workshop with Martin whilst all ages engaged in the 'Design a Shaping Positive Futures Award' workshop. Further details will be shared on the criteria for this new learner centric award.



Our first Shaping Positive Futures Learner Conference was outstanding! I am so proud of our children and young people – they were engaged, energetic, kind, brave and respectful from start to end. It was clear from the feedback we received and the emotions throughout the day – they loved every minute of it! Our learners are a credit to us, and it was a pleasure to spend the day with them.” Lizann Lowson, CEO





Across lunch time, learners had the chance to ‘Make their Mark’ by drawing around their hands and writing messages expressing their thoughts about the day.

A range of external providers set up stalls and gave out advice and freebies to our learners, all on the theme of diversity and

inclusion and what it means to their organisation. This was a huge success, particularly with our primary children who were very brave both in engaging with the adults and battling through the crowds. It added another element to the day and we were very grateful that local businesses gave their time to support the event. The day ended with each learner and staff member being presented with a gold Shaping Positive Futures commemorative Trust badge.

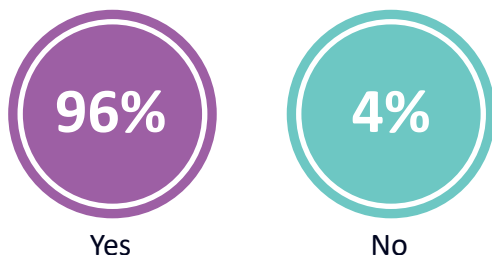
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Look what you did???!!! 300 young changemakers in a room, in an inspiring venue, at the same time working towards making, firstly, their own mark on the world and then going back and making changes in their communities. That was really empowering for them. It was great to see them bounce out of the room with an idea that they can indeed shape their world. I can't wait to head to Hull again and see how those seeds you planted grow.” Martin Burder, Art of Brilliance



Questionnaire Results

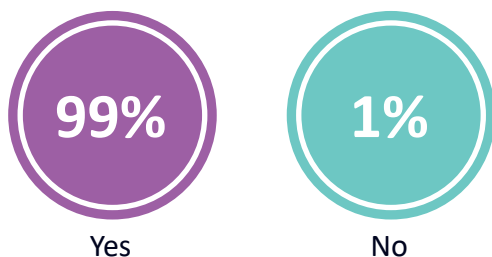
After the event I have a better understanding about Diversity and Inclusion?



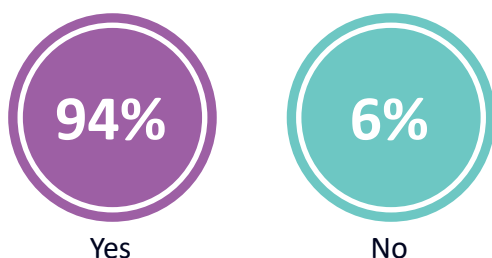
I got a chance to work with learners from other schools?



I would like to attend another Learner Conference?



The organisation of the day was well planned?



General Feedback and Actions Moving Forward



I think that the conference was a really good idea and I would like to do it again.

Action: The Learner Conference will become an annual event with a different theme each time.

The food options, particularly for the younger children, weren't ideal.

Action: We will discuss with the venue to make sure more age appropriate food is offered.

I would like more hands on team building/ active sessions.

Action: We will consider the format of the next event to ensure it meets all needs.

I would like the next conference to focus on renewable energy/ recycling/green schools.

Action: Watch this space! All ideas will be taken on board as we consider the theme for the next Learner Conference.



No matter what happens, never change yourself for the benefit of others – you being you can be a benefit in itself.” Learner Conference delegate



I really enjoyed today. The main thought that I am leaving with is that it is important to make an effort to include everyone and to celebrate diversity and differences.” Learner Conference delegate



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HAVING **YOUR SAY...**

Over the coming weeks we will share more information with you about our employee engagement survey.

Your views are important to us. We want every single colleague to have a say and we will be listening! Your voice matters- what you think about your work and what you have to say can really make a difference. We are committed to Shaping Positive Futures for all our learners. We are equally committed to Shaping Positive

Futures for all our staff too, so that your experience working with us is the very best it can be.

By completing the survey, you will give us a clear picture of what it's like to work here, and where and how improvements can be made. Whether your feedback is good or bad- your answers are invaluable and will help us make a better place to work for everyone. The survey is completely confidential, and you will be given time to fill out the survey by your line manager.

Our 'Shaping Your Future' People Survey **will open on Monday 24 April and close on Friday 12 May**. This is your chance to let us know how you feel about working here, what you enjoy and what you think we need to improve. We can't wait to hear from you!



“The People Survey is one of the biggest and best ways that there is for you to say what you think our Trust is doing well, and also what you feel we can improve. The answers you give, and the overall results of the survey, will have a direct effect on our plans and actions for the year ahead.” Rie Lane, Director of People