

The Anatomy Behind of Monitoring Vital Signs; The Metrics within Higher Education

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THE ANATOMY BEHIND MONITORING THE “VITAL SIGNS”; USING DATA IN HIGHER EDUCATION

The Higher Education sector is driven by data, metrics and thresholds, and to early career academics this can be overwhelming and may feel oppressive. Therefore this infographic aims to guide academics into thinking of how to utilise data and metrics to support their own career development.

"MEASURING"

The data and metrics used are linked within the UK to research, teaching and knowledge exchange frameworks.

Think about what data you have access to, that may assist wider strategies but also may help in developing an idea or project.



"MONITORING"

Make the data and metrics work for you!

Have your fingers on the “pulse”! Think of an idea! Invest the time and energy into that idea but ensure you have evidence to support and monitor the intervention but ensure there is sufficient evidence to collect from any intervention, and that it supports your idea! For example; has a new approach facilitated student achievement.



"ANALYSING"

- Create a plan! Have a timeline!
- Be realistic! You can't change the world from one academic cycle!
- Do a pilot first!
- Develop as a small project and evaluate before expanding the idea!

For example; Has the approach to facilitate student achievement been adopted across the programme, department school or faculty.



"RECORDING"

Think about the data and metrics you can use to record.

For example;

- Surveys; NSS, PTES, Institutional Surveys (University, Programme, Module level), Graduate Outcomes
- Data; Admissions, Enrolment, Continuation, Retention, Achievement
- Reports; Module, Programme, Department, University
- Independent Evaluations; short survey, focus groups, world cafes



"EVALUATING"

Review the impact and reach of your idea!

Who is or can benefit from your idea? Is it worthwhile or do changes need to be made and start the process again!

Not all interventions work, so it is important to know when to stop and try again!

Can this be developed with a wider network of peers and colleagues?

Can this be linked to a wider institutional strategy



Finally, review, reflect and get feedback!