

3Set – 3rd Level Services for Engagement and Transformation

Work Package 3

About the Project

3Set is a collaborative strategy consisting of three work packages designed to address the increasing demand for mental health supports in Irish Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), overseen by Dr Deirdre Flynn (Trinity Counselling, Learning Development and Student 2 Student Services). The strategy aims to increase student retention and engagement by gaining meaningful data on support needs, collating and developing shared resources for counselling service providers and developing a peer-led transition programme for students.

Work Package 3's original aim was to pilot a model for peer-led transition that focused on emotional, social and academic needs. Due to the impact of the pandemic and the demands placed on peer-led transition programmes nationally, the team will now build on research into best practice conducted nationally and internationally to redesign peer-led orientation online. The redesign process and/or the resulting resources will be available to any HEI and will include:

- Student volunteers being facilitated through a theory of change model to redesign peer-led orientation (July – September 2020)
- Development of resources for student volunteers to deliver peer-led orientation online (Aug-Sept 2020)
- Evaluation of volunteers' experience (July-Dec 2020)
- Evaluation of 1st year student experience, sense of belonging and programme impact (Sept-Dec 2020)
- "Live" (or as close as possible) reporting of student feedback for consideration and, where possible, response/change

Any peer-led transition/support programme is welcome to take all or any element of the programme as suits them and openly invited to support national feedback collection with the aim of:

- Improving online engagement and connection between students
- Identifying peer-led practices that could/should remain online into the future
- Capturing and analysing comprehensive data about student experience nationally

For more information, or to get on board, please email Ralph Armstrong-Astley at student2student@tcd.ie

Who We Are

Ralph Armstrong-Astley,

S2S Co-ordinator and Project Manager on Work Package 3

Ralph is responsible for the project delivery of Work Package 3 and ensures alignment with the overall 3Set project. She has worked in 3rd level Mentoring and Peer Support since 2011 and specialises in models of student leadership and volunteer care.

Clair Battle

S2S Training Officer

Clair is leading the development of a cohesive social, emotional and academic transition training programme for Work Package 3, including online training and participant pace modules on a VLE. She will be basing these programmes on the research conducted to date and the recommendations of the student groups' theory of change model. Clair will publish draft materials through the community of practice (Flock channel) and co-ordinate software/licensing and training requirements for peer-led transition staff engaging in the project.

Edel O'Reilly

Student Learning Development Advisor

Edel has been interviewing HEIs nationally and within the UK to explore current models of peer assisted learning and peer mentoring. She has also completed a literature review on this topic, and this dual approach to information gathering will inform recommendations for the online orientation model. She will also be gathering and evaluating data from the programme and sharing the findings on our online community of practice (Flock channel).