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| Supports students who are often in dire circumstances | Makes students feel valued | Increased opportunity for students to seek support | Builds strong relationships | At Exam Boards, staff are able to communicate in greater detail about each student’s personal circumstances  “Thank you so much for getting in touch ……. I have been worrying about this quite a lot, so would again like to thank you for reaching out. If there is a negotiable workplan, this would be very welcomed and appreciated.”  “Thank you so much by the way for all your help and support and putting up with all my rubbish last year - lecturers and support systems at UHI have been absolutely amazing to me and I can't thank you enough.” The Centre for History SweepCentre for History W | **Goal:** To improve student retention by effectively identifying and supporting those who are struggling, enabling early measures to be taken.  **Submitted by:** Alison MacWilliam and Nicola Martin **Project:** To set up a (confidential) process which monitors class attendance, VLE engagement, and assessment submissions to identify students who are having issues. These students are then contacted by the Programme Leader, PAT, or HistoryHelp as appropriate, for early intervention. **Benefit to:** Undergraduate History students.   |  |  | | --- | --- | | ****Key message: Early identification of students who are struggling**** | | | Early warning system to highlight students who are struggling to engage | | | Intervention at this stage enables support to be put in place to allow them to continue with their studies | | | Monitoring progress improves retention | | | Activity takes place at key points in both semesters | | | Students can be offered a range of options, including a repeat year | | | **Project delivery** |  | | The Sweep has been developed into a year-round activity | | | A confidential spreadsheet is set up in Week 6 of S1, and every module is checked for attendance and VLE engagement | | | Data is cross-referenced with assessment submission | | | Students who are struggling are contacted by the PL, their PAT, or HistoryHelp, as appropriate | | | A second Sweep in S2, after the resit deadline, also takes place | |   **Impact:**  The early identification of issues enables appropriate support to be put in place as soon as possible. This includes study plans, referral to support services, or discussions about suspension/withdrawal/repeat. These measures often allow students to successfully re-engage with their studies, and improves retention. |