



The Challenge

The Learning Institute South West delivers PGCE primary and secondary ITT (initial teacher training) courses. Trainees are in placement schools over a dispersed geographical area throughout Cornwall and South Devon. The challenge was to monitor trainee progress on a timely basis and react promptly to resolve any issues.

The Check Online Solution

Check Online supports flexible assignments within a personalised learning platform that is powerful yet easy to use. Assignments can be created once and issued multiple times. This was useful for the multiple assignments issued to trainees as a part of a PGCE programme. Regular collection and scrutiny of lesson observations was of particular importance – especially when trainees are so geographically dispersed. Within Check Online lesson observation is declared once as an assignment and then issued on a weekly basis allowing trainees to submit observations remotely and electronically. Furthermore Check Online is ‘mobile friendly’ and many trainees opt to scan observations with a mobile phone, convert to PDF and submit. Tutors can now regularly monitor lesson observations and act promptly to resolve any issues. Check Online also features custom mark books that allow tutors to download mark books for assignments of their choice.

Check Online is the only learning platform that features online learning checklists that can be fully customised for any subject, topic or level. The Learning Institute South West uses online learning checklists to monitor progress against parts 1 and 2 of the teaching standards. Trainees are able to RAG their progress against each standard remotely. Green denotes sound evidence (grade 1 or 2), amber denotes incomplete evidence (typically grades 3 or 4) and red denotes no evidence. Tutors are able to view and download progress against the standards for all trainees online. They are also able to verify that a standard has been met, giving trainees confidence. Within Check Online each use of learning checklists is date stamped, giving evidence of improvement over time.

For any learning platform to be successful, a widespread ‘buy-in’ from staff and students is essential. Check Online features advanced audit-trails. This allows system administrators at The Learning Institute South West to identify trainees and tutors who are not periodically logging in. As a result it is possible to promptly identify any potential barriers to ‘buy-in’ and act accordingly.