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STUDENT-STAFF COLLABORATIVE RESOURCES

University of Brighton
Centre for Learning and Teaching

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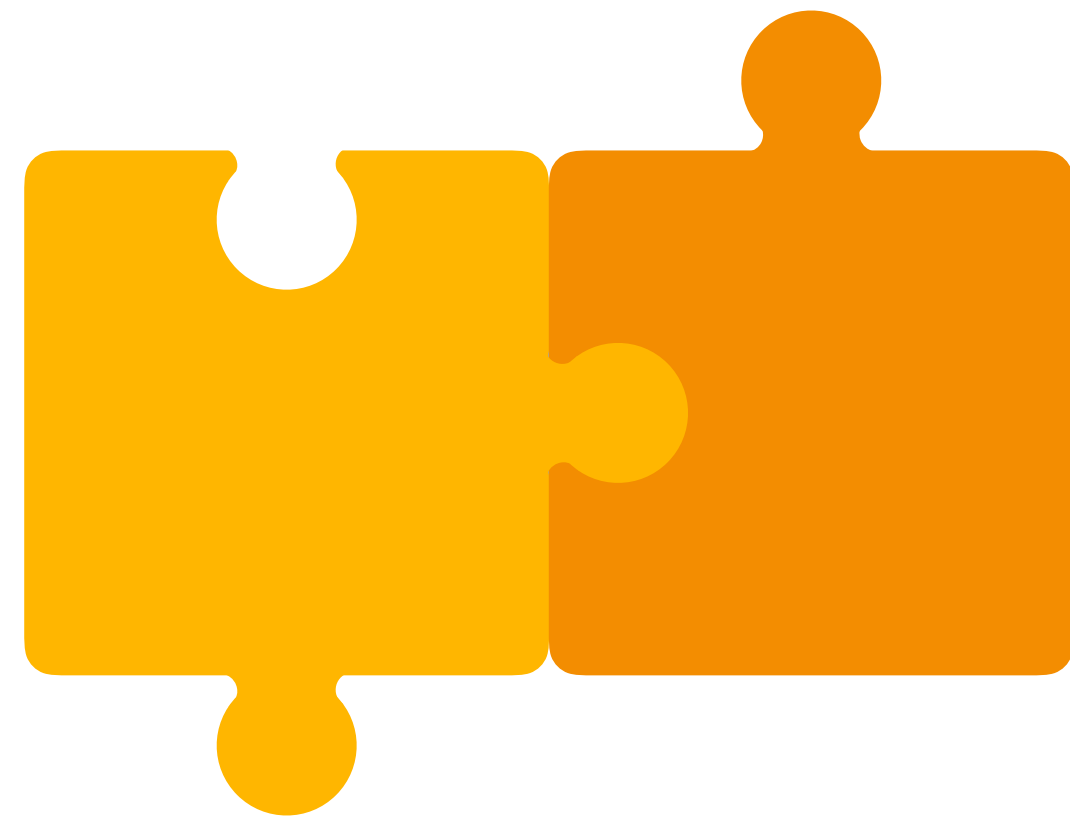
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University of Brighton

ALD_{in}HE

Association for Learning Development in Higher Education



EXPLORING PARTNERSHIP

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OVERVIEW

ACTIVITY



OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

The purpose of this activity is for students and staff embarking on partnership work to discuss and explore values that will be important for them in building an effective partnership. The Higher Education Academy's Framework for Student Engagement through Partnership (HEA, 2014, pp.14-15) identifies a set of core values for enabling partnership to take place. These values have been adapted and simplified to engage a variety of audiences, aiming to more evenly distribute power dynamics present when embarking on a collaboration. The aim of this activity is to try and put both parties on a more equal playing field, to help people feel valued and, if possible, help the partnership be productive. Please consider the following when embarking on this activity:

1. Be respectful of what the other person has to say, the aim of this activity is not to make judgments but to understand and adapt certain things that we do to ensure comfortable workmanship for everyone involved.
2. Only disclose information you are comfortable with your partner knowing. You do not have to disclose information about your personal life if you don't want to.
3. Ensure that both you and your partner are listening to each other and treating one another with respect, you are both equally responsible in making this an engaging and constructive exercise
4. Make sure you take into account the environment in which you complete this activity and try to find a neutral place for both of you to meet, such as a coffee shop and/or library room or booth. A neutral environment can help people to be more open and therefore make this activity more beneficial for both parties involved.

NEXT

ACTIVITY



In preparation please print out or download the following:

1. 1 set of the 10 'Exploring Partnership' cards provided
2. One 'Exploring Partnership' Venn diagram per person in the partnership

Step 1: For the first part of the activity you will need to shuffle the 10 values statements and place them in the centre of the table, take turns to pick a statement and read what is written on it. After you have done that, ask your partner 3 questions about the card:

Have you ever experienced this value within any other partnerships or group work?

2. What would you require from a partner or your environment to ensure this value is present?
3. If this value was present within the partnership, how could this be beneficial to both parties and within future partnerships?

Step 2: For the second part of this activity each take an 'Exploring Partnership' Venn diagram sheet and write the titles of the cards that you feel are the most important values for you when embarking on a partnership underneath your name. Then write what your partner feels are the most important values for engaging in a partnership underneath their name. Where the circles over-lap, see if there are any values that you both feel are important and write them there. Take this sheet into consideration throughout the whole of your partnership, revisiting them frequently, to create a comfortable and productive environment.

NEXT



EXPLORING PARTNERSHIP VALUES STATEMENTS*

TRUST

All parties take time to get to know each other, to engage in open and honest dialogue and are confident they will be treated with respect and fairness.

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EXPLORING PARTNERSHIP VALUES STATEMENTS*

COURAGE

All parties should try not to shy away from difficult situations, but confront and learn from them. Encourage the people you are working with to take risks and show respect when they are working outside their comfort zones.

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EXPLORING PARTNERSHIP VALUES STATEMENTS*

AUTHENTICITY

All parties have a meaningful rationale for investing in partnership and are honest about what they can contribute and the parameters of the partnership. Think about how this partnership is worthwhile and how it could have impact outside of just yourselves.

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EXPLORING PARTNERSHIP VALUES STATEMENTS*

INCLUSIVITY

Partnership embraces the different talents, perspectives and experiences that all parties bring, there are no barriers (structural or cultural) that would prevent a potential/current partner to get involved.

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EXPLORING PARTNERSHIP VALUES STATEMENTS*

CHALLENGE

All parties are encouraged to constructively critique and challenge practices, structures and approaches that undermine partnerships, and are enabled to take risks to develop new ways of working and learning.

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EXPLORING PARTNERSHIP VALUES STATEMENTS*

EMPOWERMENT

Power is distributed appropriately and all parties are encouraged to constructively challenge ways of working and learning that may reinforce existing inequalities.

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EXPLORING PARTNERSHIP VALUES STATEMENTS*

RECIPROCITY

All parties have an interest in, and stand to benefit from, working and/or learning within this partnership. Everyone is willing to put in the same effort that everyone else involved in the partnership are.

NEXT



EXPLORING PARTNERSHIP VALUES STATEMENTS*

HONESTY

Both parties should be open and truthful. When working together you should be fair and sincere. If you do not agree with a point or think something may not necessarily work, speak up and offer constructive feedback without being disrespectful of their ideas.

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EXPLORING PARTNERSHIP VALUES STATEMENTS*

COMMUNITY

All parties feel a sense of belonging and are valued fully for the unique contribution that they make.

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EXPLORING PARTNERSHIP VALUES STATEMENTS*

RESPONSIBILITY

All parties share collective responsibility for the aims of the partnership and individual responsibility for any contributions they make.

* Healey, M., Flint, A., & Harrington, K. (2014). Engagement Through Partnership: Students as Partners in Learning and Teaching in Higher Education (1st ed,pp.14-15). York: The Higher Education Academy.

* Higher Education Academy (2017) Framework for Student Engagement through Partnership.

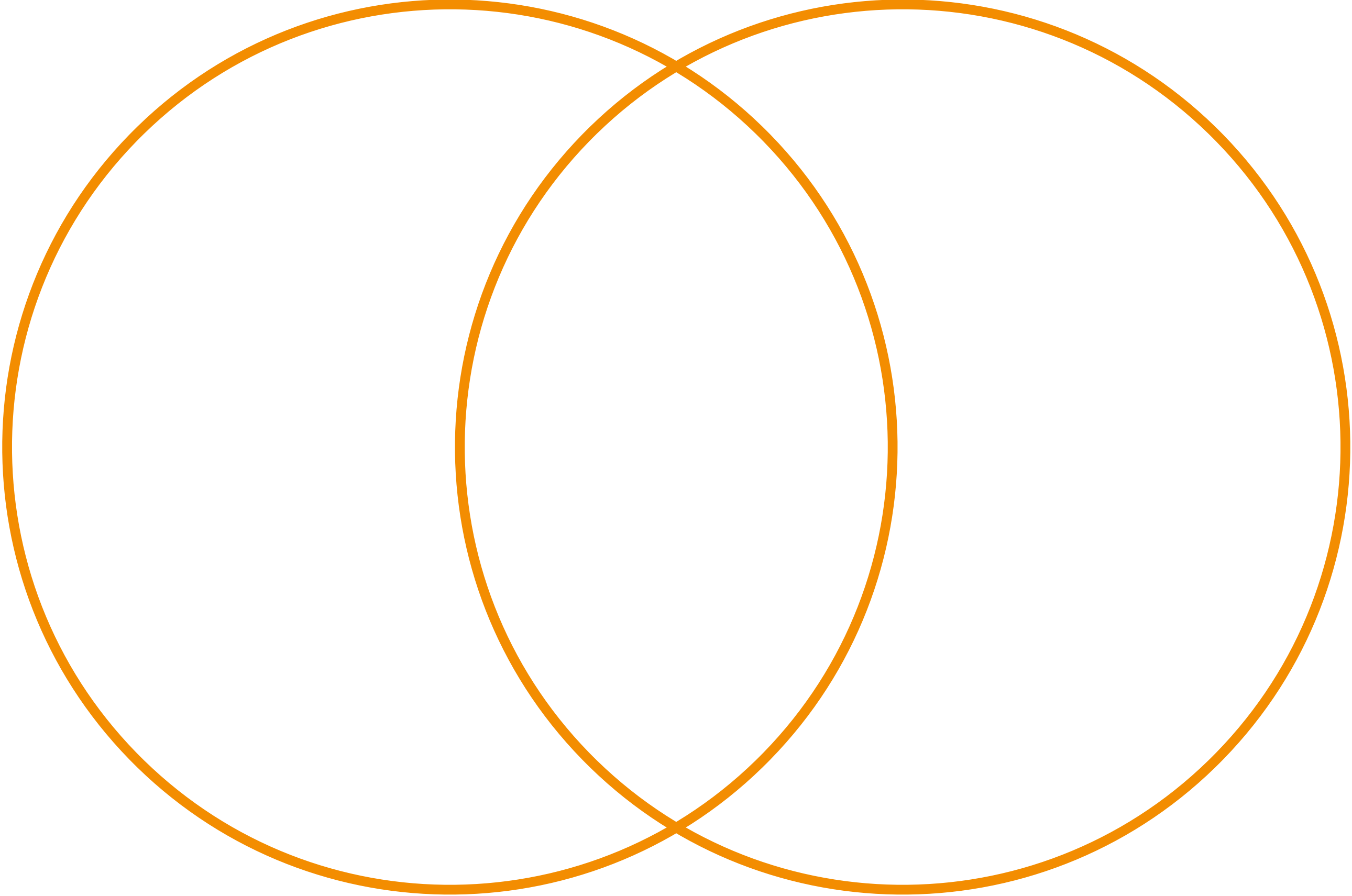
Available here: <https://www.heacademy.ac.uk/system/files/downloads/student-engagement-through-partnership-new.pdf>

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EXPLORING PARTNERSHIP VALUES STATEMENTS



YOUR NAME



YOUR PARTNER'S NAME