BLC Spring Meeting
Friday 27th March 2020 – BLC Spring Meeting

10:00 - 10:20
Welcome and BLC Updates
Amy Hollier – Blended Learning Consortium

10:20 - 10:45
Cognify
Peter Kilcoyne – Cognify Project, Pembrokeshire College

10:50 - 11:10
Learnings From the First Week of Online Delivery
Deb Millar – Grimsby Institute of Further and Higher Education

11:10 - 11:30
Essential Digital Skills and Accessibility
Vikki Logier – ETF

11:35 - 11:50
Canvas
Martin Levarne – Instructure

11:50 - 12:00
Q&A

12:00
Webinar close
BLC Updates

Amy Hollier

- Content development
- Plugin updates
- Recent BLC activity
- Annual conference
- Feedback on RISE
- Moodle/Teams integration
Content Development

- Accessibility project and technical refresh project launch
  * Ready for summer launch
  * Browser issues fixed, broken links updated etc.
  * Audio
  * Every piece of legacy content supported by accessibility docs

- Google Drive

- Writers required – In particular, Tutorials.

- Publishing 5 – 10 objects every week

- New videos on their way

- Additional SEND videos currently being developed
Plugin Updates

Moodle plugin - significant investment into upgrades coming this summer as more colleges have bought into the plugin

**Accessibility Updating**
Adding accessibility docs along with SCORM packages as they are added through the plugin

Adding Accessibility docs in bulk to all existing BLC modules via admin page button.

**Bulk Updating**
A standalone feature which an admin could use over the summer to update all BLC module that have a later version available.
The admin can update all modules using a button on the settings page.

**Alphabetical ordering**
**Attempts management**
**Auto Cache clearing for the most up to date list of modules**

- Updating C-Learning about releases earlier – quicker push through
- Canvas – Hull College Group – proof of concept
Recent BLC Activity

- Accessibility Online Conference
  Over 100 delegates
  Presentations from Microsoft, Google, Canvas and BLC colleges
  All recordings on BLC website

- Preparing for distance learning online conference
  Circa 200 delegates
  To assist colleagues in building a distance learning strategy in the event of closures

- Endeavour to respond rapidly to changes in the sector and topical debate to support the community
The BLC’s Top Tips for Delivering Effective Distance Learning:

1. Keep it simple! It doesn’t need to be technically amazing to deliver great teaching online – your passion for the subject is the most valuable tool to use.

2. Set some structure for students to follow – when will you all meet online, what work should they be completing and by when?

3. Provide students with a discussion board, webinar room or informal channel to encourage and maintain social interaction.

4. Provide students with relevant watching, reading and listening lists.

5. Record ‘live’ sessions for students to refer back to if they can’t attend at the scheduled time.

6. Where possible use asynchronous and synchronous delivery for students to have the opportunity to interact and work through material in their own time.

7. Online quizzes work well and provide an opportunity for students to check their own knowledge.

8. Remember when developing content that some students may only be able to access online learning on a small smartphone screen.

9. Set students research to conduct and then present back to the group verbally or illustrated in some way.

10. Don’t compare your work to what others are doing – do what is best for you and your students.
BLC Annual Summer Conference - Cancelled

- CPD webinars and workshops to be delivered
Access to HE - Evaluating HE opportunities

Complete this course to find out about how to evaluate your various higher education opportunities.

Feedback on RISE Development
Community Opportunities:

- MS Team for Moodle/365 integration for colleagues to share best practice
- Development of case studies
- Writing of content
- Development of videos
- Pilot projects