

**SLC & HELOA Professional Development Conference:
Working with Mature Students**
Tuesday 27 November 2018

Crowne Plaza, Birmingham City Centre

- 09:30 **Registration & refreshments**
- 10:00 **Conference welcome**
- 10:15 **Funding for mature students**
Student Loans Company and SAAS
SLC's Funding Information Team will examine funding implications specific to mature students. The session will shine a light on possible funding routes for those wishing to return to study, as well as those looking to access the new loans for postgraduate study. We will look at considerations around all aspects of eligibility for mature learners, such as previous study, age and family set-up, all of which may impact what support is available, and crucially, how much.
- 11:15 **Refreshment break**
- 11:30 **Why and how we must work with mature learners**
Caroline McDonald, Director of Access and Engagement, Birkbeck University of London
- 12:30 **Lunch**
Networking lunch with speakers and representatives from SLC
- 13.15 **SAAS SLC Update**
- 13.45 **Mature student and Student Finance panel**
An opportunity for delegates to ask questions to a panel of mature learners about their experiences, including support they are offered and also gain advice from SLC representatives.
- 14.30 **Mature student initiatives**
Delegates will work together to share best practice and discuss common issues while completing an exercise to design a new initiative for working with mature students. Representatives from SLC will be available to offer advice and answer any questions delegates may have around financially supporting mature students
- 15:15 **Depart**