



Midlands

HELOA Midlands Training Day Agenda

University of Derby

Tuesday 12th May 2026

Registered Charity numbers: 1182953 (England & Wales) and SC050285 (Scotland)

10:30 - 11:00 - Arrive, sign in & Network with tea and biscuits

11:00 - 11:30 - Welcome & Introductions

11:30 - 12:15 - Running a successful Ambassador scheme - Emma Foulds, University of Liverpool

Blurb to come- will be updated in next update email

12:15 - 13:00 - Lunch and networking

13:00 - 13:45 - Round table discussions

How to Increase Progression of 3rd Year Students into Postgraduate Study

Explore strategies to encourage and support third-year undergraduate students to progress into postgraduate education. Discussions will focus on early awareness of postgraduate pathways, effective academic advising, financial considerations, and confidence-building initiatives. You will share best practices, challenges, and practical interventions that institutions can implement to improve postgraduate progression rates.

Creating/Managing Projects that Align with Your APP

This round table will explore how creativity can be used to design engaging and impactful projects that support Access and Participation Plan priorities. The discussion will focus on innovative approaches to project design, creative engagement with students and communities, and balancing artistic freedom with strategic and regulatory requirements. You will share ideas, inspiration, and practical examples of how creative thinking can enhance access, participation, and student success.

How to Communicate with Gen Alpha

This round table will explore innovative and creative approaches to engaging Generation Alpha in the context of university recruitment. Discussions will focus on understanding Gen Alpha's values, digital behaviours, and communication preferences, including the use of emerging platforms, visual storytelling, and authentic messaging. You will share ideas and experiences on how universities can adapt their recruitment strategies to build trust, relevance, and early aspiration with this new generation of learners.

How to Step Up and Gain New Skills in the University Workplace

Explore how university staff can take proactive steps to develop new skills and grow professionally within a higher education environment. Discussions will cover identifying development opportunities, building confidence, learning through projects and collaboration, and navigating institutional structures to support progression. You will share practical advice, experiences, and strategies for continuous learning and career development across a range of university roles.

13:45 - 14:00 - Short break

14:00 - 14:50 - Breakout Sessions

Option 1: Understanding HEAT

Blurb to come- will be updated in next update email

Option 2: Engaging academics

Blurb to come- will be updated in next update email

14:50 - 15:00 - Round up

15:00 - End