

Model- Implementation of a PLE

Step 1: Form a partnership working group with IT support, learner support and academic teams to develop a technical and learning support plan. Questions that need asking may be:

- a) What widgets and/or feeds need developing to support your students?
- b) How can we support students in developing and using a PLE effectively?

This is a crucial part of the process as if the technical and learner support services are not in place, then students will not be able to develop a PLE.

Step 2: Develop the widgets and feeds for as many environments as possible utilising the simplest method available. As part of our technical development plan, we utilised the Netvibes UWA to allow us to develop for multiple environments using one programming interface. IT support services need to decide the best method available to them.

Step 3: Learner support services and Academic teams need to develop their own PLE. This will help them understand what a PLE means and how it works. They can then use this to contribute to a learner support plan for students wanting to develop a PLE. They need to understand how to support students in using a PLE in a learning context.

Step 4: Establish common ground rules in how IT and learner support services will support learners in creating and managing their PLE. This will help the successful implementation of a PLE support service respecting the fact that there are always limited resources and time to consider.

