

Bristol 17/02/2016

What Skills learners say

#digitalstudent

http://digitalstudent.jiscinvolve.org



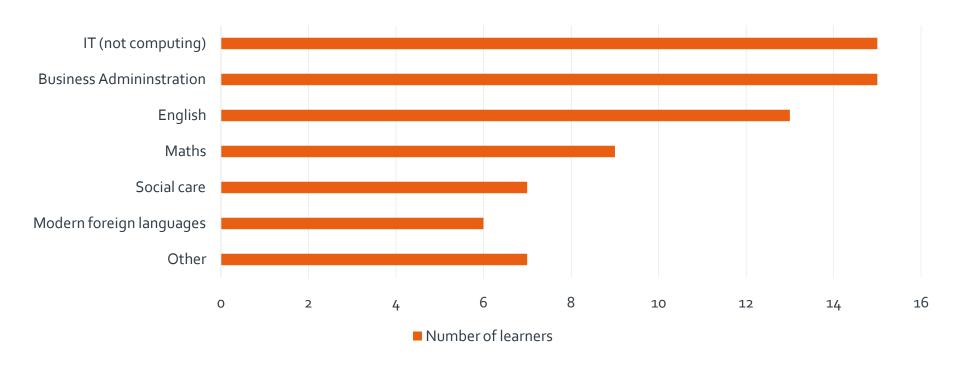
8 focus groups so far:

Sheffield	InTouchCare	Private training provider	Social care/ childcare , level 2	7
Stoke-on-trent	Stoke ACL	ACL	Functional Maths, level 2	4
London	LESOCO	FE college	Business management , levels two and three	13
Bristol	Lifetime careers	Private training provider	Hospitality , levels two and three	10
Lowestoft	Realise futures	Private training provider (social enterprise)	Land based, levels E and E1	3
Leicester	Leicester ACL	ACL	IT/ basic skills, levels E, one and two	7
Derby	Derby ACL	ACL	Recreational languages, levels E, one and three	6
Carmarthen	Carmarthenshire ACL	ACL	IT/ art/ functional English and Maths , levels E to three	20
Totals		ACL; private trainers 3; FE college 1		70



Courses of study

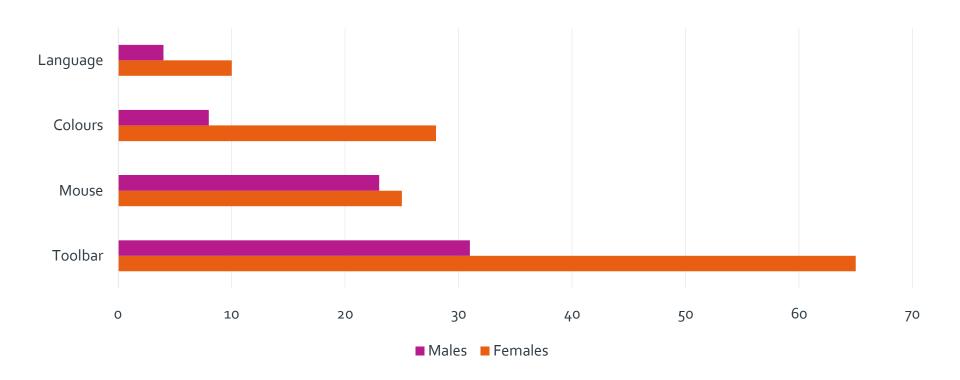
- » Learners of all ages from 16 to 60+
- » Broad range of study programmes





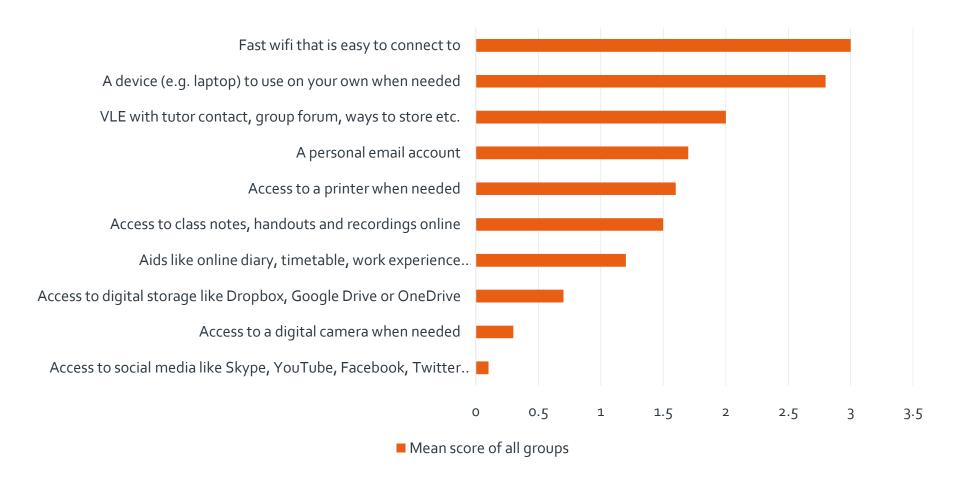
Customising

Females more likely to customise tool bars and colour schemes





Access to technology – relative importance of items





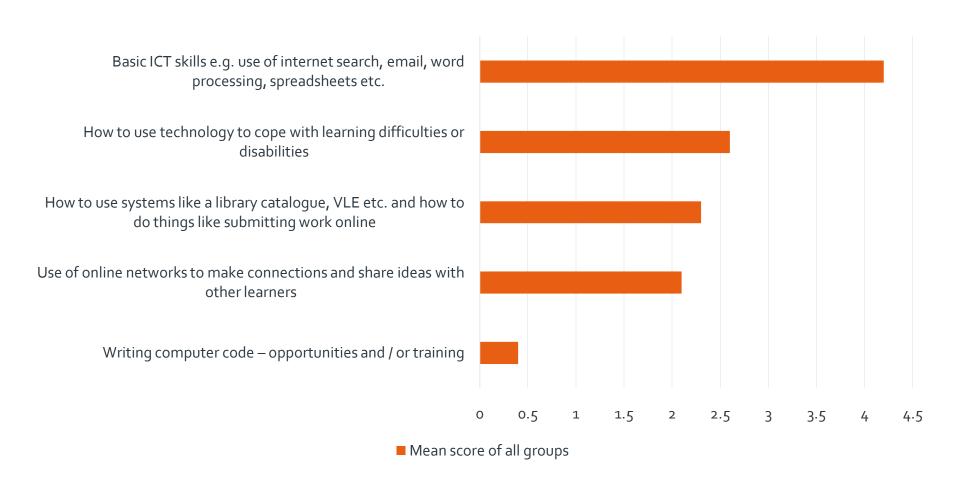


"It would be good if we (an apprentice group) had a private Facebook page where you put all the class notes, so we could access them when we're at work."





Useful skills – relative importance of items

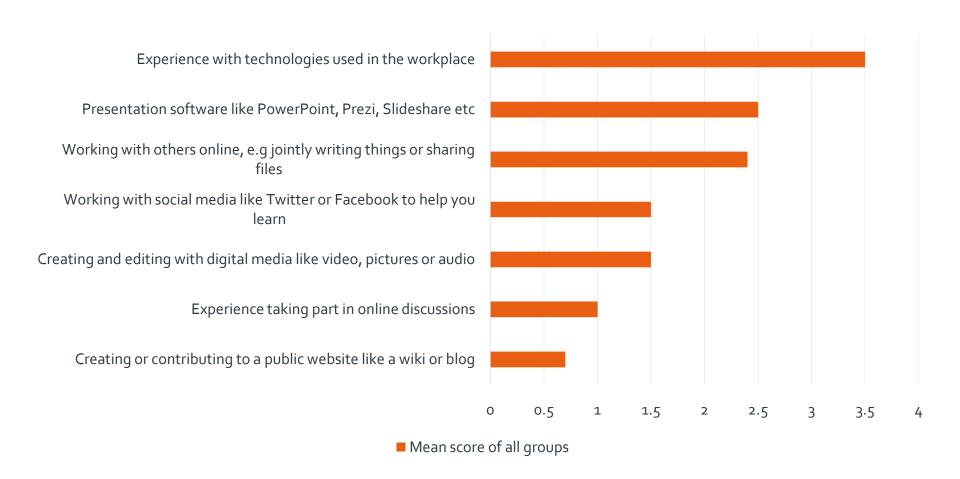




- "In 5 years' time, basic IT skills will have changed, so you have to keep learning it. I can learn a lot on my own, but you need to be taught spreadsheets"
- » "I don't understand any of that (computer code) I'm not interested. But, if somebody had introduced me to it, it might have been an opportunity"



Experiences on course – relative importance of items





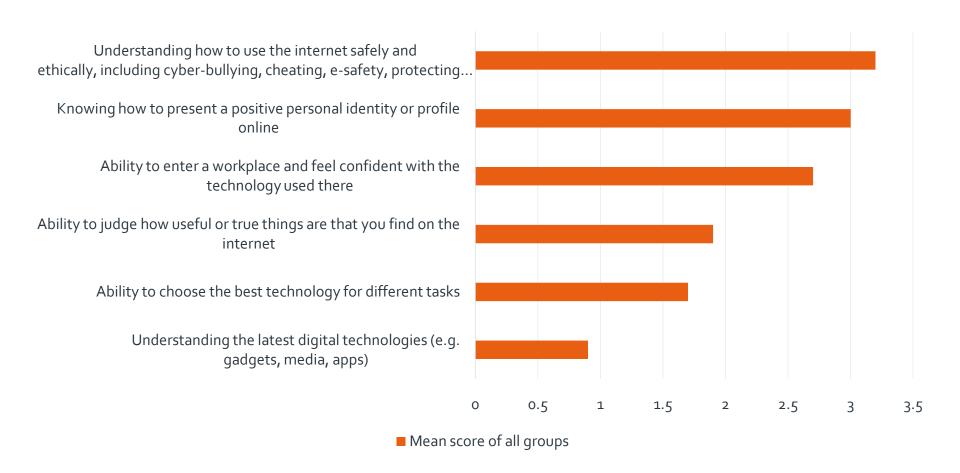


"It's easy to come across like you're being really abrupt (online) and you don't mean to, so you've got to be really careful... and I think people really have to learn that."





Making good choices – relative importance of items





Emerging conclusions (1)

- » Learners' skills + use of technology far from homogeneous even amongst the same age groups
- » Learners want access to a device they can use, prefer an open 'bring your own' (BYO) device policy



Emerging conclusions (2)

- » Learners highly responsive to being asked how they would like to use digital technology
- » Process gave providers concrete model for eliciting learners' views of their provision
- » Engaging learners in discussions around technology can prompt positive changes in existing teaching and learning practice



Emerging conclusions (3)

- » Cards an effective method to raise awareness of ways to use digital technology for learners + providers
- » Managers can use learner quotes from discussions as powerful ammunition to persuade superiors to improve / extend digital provision