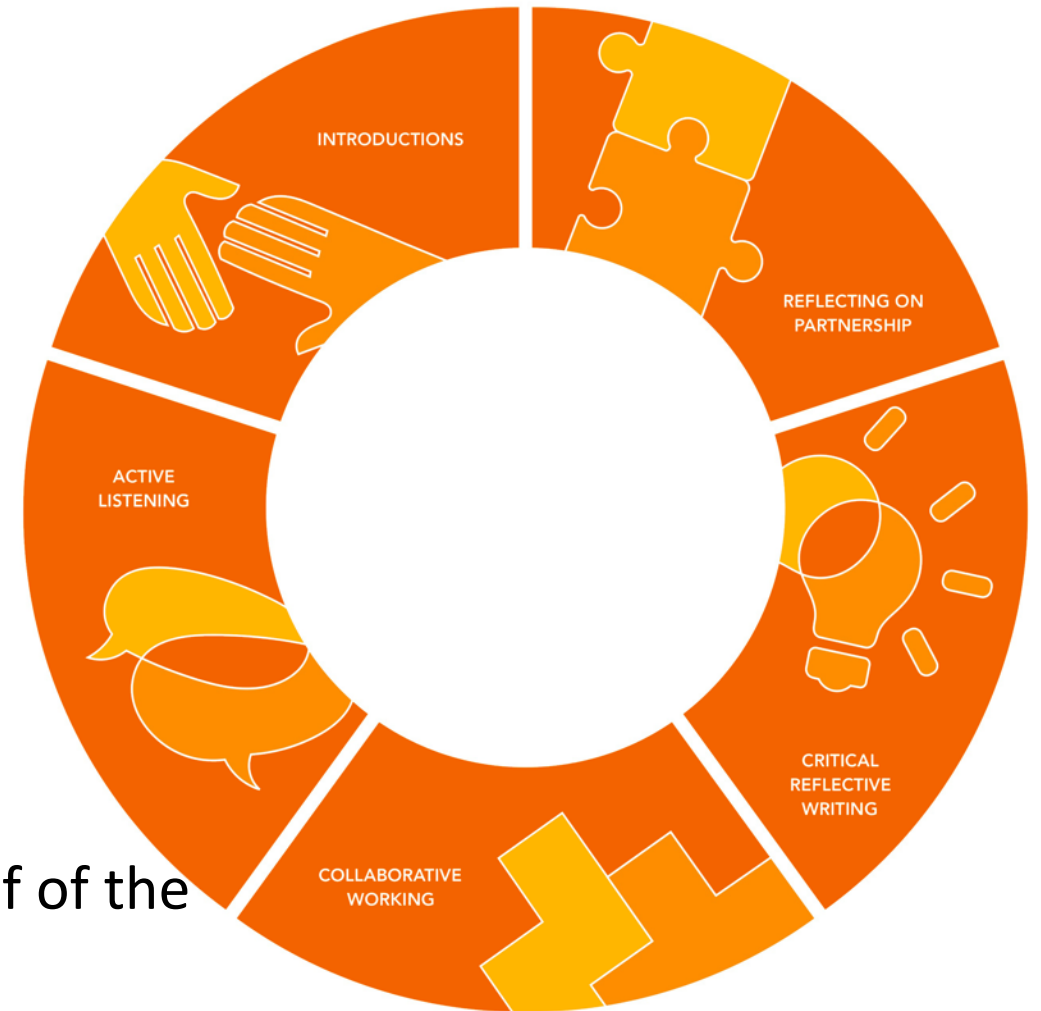


# Fostering Student Initiated Engagement with Curriculum Design: creating resources to develop partnerships, strengthen communication and embed action

Catherine McConnell and Sophie Howells on behalf of the Student Academic Success and Partnership Team

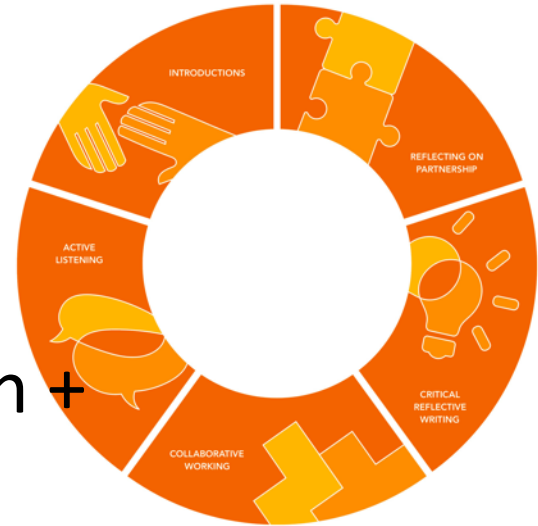


# Student Academic Success and Partnership (SASP) Team



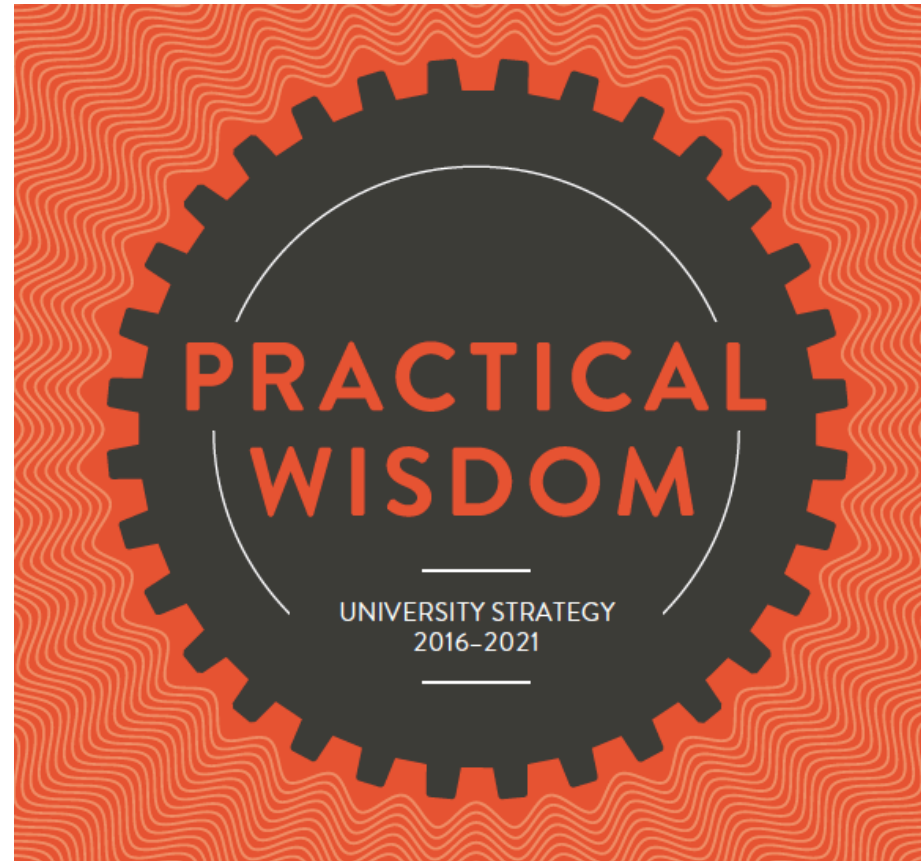
# Workshop Outline

- 5 mins Student staff collaboration in curriculum design + Collaborative Resources Project - aims, team, process
- 10 mins Introduction to the resources
- 30 mins Resources – discussion and feedback
- 15 mins Evaluation and future piloting



# Student-Staff Collaboration and Partnership

Embedded now  
within university  
mission





# Curriculum Design Initiative

- Practical wisdom – institutional strategy
  - Themes for curriculum redesign
    - Inclusive Practice
    - Sustainability
    - Enquiry-led learning
    - Students as Partners
- Students as Partners:
  - Partners in the process of redesigning and refreshing the curriculum
  - Partners in the learning process, through assignments, research, co-construction of knowledge



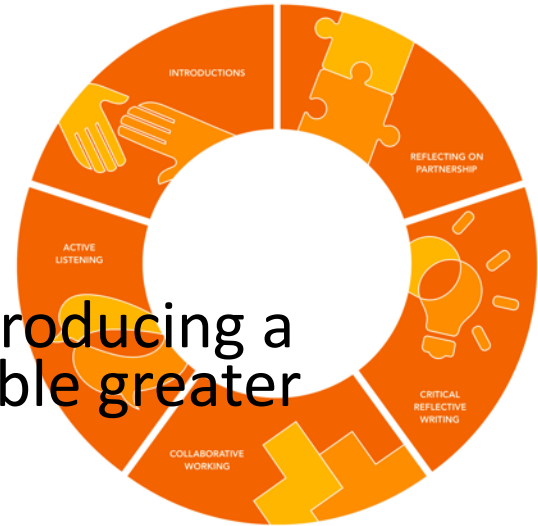
# Challenges to student-staff collaboration?

- Power dynamics between students and staff?
- Impact of environment – who's territory?
- Inclusive of students and learning differences?
- Clarity about roles, responsibilities and expectations?
- Communication open and reciprocal?
- Student involvement tokenistic or meaningful?
- Action embedded in practice or remain conceptual?



# Project Aims

- Addresses these challenges to student-staff collaboration by producing a set of 5 online downloadable resources that facilitate and enable greater student-staff collaboration and partnership work, including:
  - Introduction resources (*inductions, goal setting, support*)
  - Exploring partnership work (*applying theory to practice*)
  - Team communication via active listening exercises (*for small and large meeting contexts*)
  - Critical reflective writing (*for personal and professional development*)
  - Co-writing templates (*clarifying roles, responsibilities, aims*)
- Resources will be piloted and evaluated for further development before being made available online. Initially for Learning Development teams but to be piloted and evaluated in discipline contexts also.



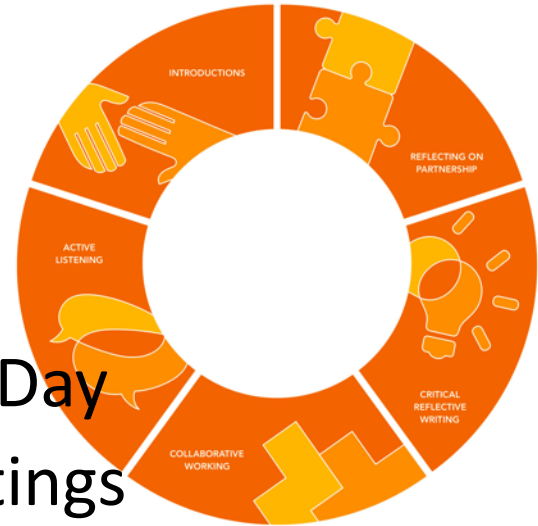
# Project Process





# Project Timeline

- Jan – mapping existing practice in HE sector and SASP
- Feb– recruited Graphic Designer; Resource Development Day
- Mar – Ongoing development of the resources; team meetings
- Apr - ALDinHE conference; finalising resources; design evaluation; pilot resources; project phase 2 funding
- May – Ongoing piloting; evaluations
- Jun - Ongoing piloting; evaluations; writing up team reflections
- Jul – Project evaluations and begin co-writing paper
- Aug – Continue co-writing paper; begin phase 2 (internally funded) – further piloting (nationally), development, research into resources in contexts



# Resource 1: Introductions



INTRODUCTIONS



# Resource 2: Exploring Partnership



EXPLORING  
PARTNERSHIP



# Resource 3: Critical Reflection



CRITICAL  
REFLECTION





# Resource 4: Active Listening



ACTIVE LISTENING



# Resource 5: Collaborative Working



COLLABORATIVE  
WORKING



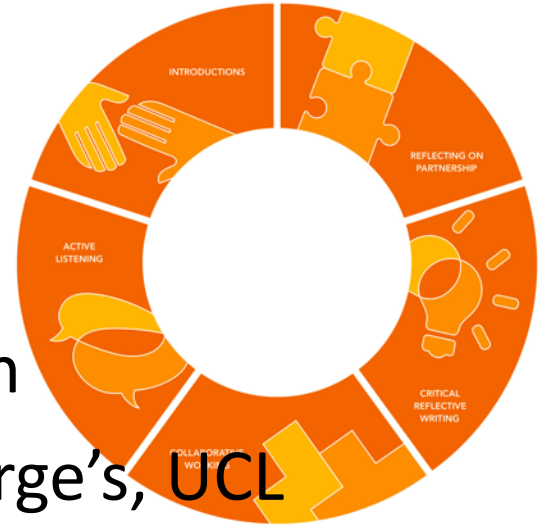
# Discussion Activity



- Can you identify one strength of the resource, and one area for improvement?
- How could this resource be useful in the context of your own practice?



# Next Steps and Getting Involved



- The resources are currently being evaluated and piloted in the SASP team, across disciplines at Brighton and at St George's, UCL

- If anyone is interested in piloting, please contact:

Catherine McConnell [C.McConnell@brighton.ac.uk](mailto:C.McConnell@brighton.ac.uk)

- Resources once complete will be available from the ALDinHE and Learn Higher Websites, and a proposed publication through a JLDinHE





# Useful Links

- [www.brighton.ac.uk/ask](http://www.brighton.ac.uk/ask)
- [www.brighton.ac.uk/ask/pass](http://www.brighton.ac.uk/ask/pass)
- <https://www.heacademy.ac.uk/institutions/consultancy/frameworks/student-engagement>

