WP2 | Eduwork.Net Survey

UK Report

EduWork.Net

"Networking of VET providers for improving quality of work based learning at local and transnational level"

Project No.609096-EPP-1-2019-1-IT-EPPKA3-VET-NETPAR

#6

COMPLETE

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Pagina 2: 1. Partner details

D1   **UK**

1.1 - Where is located your organisation?

D2

1.2 - Please, specify how many VET centers have been involved in the survey

5

D3

1.3 - Please, specify how many respondents have been involved in the survey

30+

Pagina 3: 2. SECTION I: EDUCATION AND WORK-BASED LEARNING

D4

2.1 - What type of work-based learning did you participate in during your studies?

Apprenticeship	**7**
Internship	**6**
Work placement in another country	**2**
Other	**15**

D5

2.2 - At which study level were you during your work-based learning?

Apprentice	**7**
Upper-secondary vocational education and training	**5**
Post-secondary vocational education and training	**14**
Other (please indicate)	**2**

D6

2.3 - Was the work-based learning a mandatory part of your curriculum?

Yes	**16**
No	**14**

D7

2.4 - What was the duration of work-based learning?

less than a month	**2**
between 1-3 months	**16**
between 4-6 months	**8**
more than 7 months	**2**

D8

2.5 - Your host organisation is/was:

a VET school/institute	**4**
a company	**16**
a mix between VET school/institute and company	**8**
Other (please indicate)	**7**

D9

2.6 a)My study programme properly prepared me for the work-based learning in the company

Strongly disagree	**1**
Disagree	**2**
Agree	**17**
Strongly agree	**8**
I do not know	**2**

D10

2.6 b)During the work-based learning, I had the opportunity to practice skills that I acquired in my studies

Strongly disagree	**1**
Disagree	**0**
Agree	**11**
Strongly agree	**16**
I do not know	**0**

D11

2.6 c)Work-based learning complemented my studies

Strongly disagree	**1**
Disagree	**2**
Agree	**15**
Strongly agree	**11**
I do not know	**1**

D12

2.7 - Did you gain knowledge, skills or competences or professional experience during your work-based learning that you would not have gained in your studies?*Provide a summary of all given answers

27 respondents replied yes – most spoke about the opportunity to practice soft skills. A high number of respondents also spoke about the ability to learn on the job or through training, that they would be unable to gain within traditional learning establishments

D13

2.8 a)Technical skills

Very important	**13**
Somewhat important	**7**
Slightly important	**6**
Not at all important	**0**
I do not know	**2**

D14

2.8 b)Learning to learn - ability to motivate myself to learn new stuff

Very important	**11**
Somewhat important	**12**
Slightly important	**4**
Not at all important	**0**
I do not know	**1**

D15

2.8 c)Learning to learn - ablity to take responsibility for own learning

Very important	**13**
Somewhat important	**7**
Slightly important	**7**
Not at all important	**0**
I do not know	**1**

D16

2.8 d)Learning to learn - ability to interpret and communicate information

Very important	**13**
Somewhat important	**7**
Slightly important	**7**
Not at all important	**1**
I do not know	**0**

D17

2.8 e)Learning to learn - ability to invest time and effort in learning new skills

Very important	**11**
Somewhat important	**11**
Slightly important	**5**
Not at all important	**0**
I do not know	**1**

D18

2.8 f)Communication - ability to explain work instructions to colleagues

Very important	**13**
Somewhat important	**7**
Slightly important	**7**
Not at all important	**0**
I do not know	**1**

D19

2.8 g)Communication - ability to use the specific terminology of the work environment

Very important	**12**
Somewhat important	**11**
Slightly important	**4**
Not at all important	**0**
I do not know	**1**

D20

2.8 h)Communication - ability to articulate your own work-related ideas, thoughts, opinions and feelings

Very important	**12**
Somewhat important	**9**
Slightly important	**5**
Not at all important	**0**
I do not know	**1**

D21

2.8 i)Communication - ability to work and communicate in multicultural environments

Very important	**10**
Somewhat important	**9**
Slightly important	**5**
Not at all important	**3**
I do not know	**1**

D22

2.8 j)Team-work - ability to respect thoughts and opinions of team-members

Very important	**12**
Somewhat important	**9**
Slightly important	**5**
Not at all important	**1**
I do not know	**1**

D23

2.8 k)Team-work - ability to work towards group consensus in decision-making

Very important	**11**
Somewhat important	**9**
Slightly important	**6**
Not at all important	**1**
I do not know	**1**

D24

2.8 l)Team-work - ability to accept feedback

Very important	**13**
Somewhat important	**9**
Slightly important	**4**
Not at all important	**1**
I do not know	**1**

D25

2.8 m)Team-work - ability to value other person's contribution

Very important	**15**
Somewhat important	**7**
Slightly important	**5**
Not at all important	**0**
I do not know	**1**

D26

2.8 n)Team-work - ability to share information openly

Very important	**12**
Somewhat important	**10**
Slightly important	**5**
Not at all important	**0**
I do not know	**1**

D27

2.8 o)Problem solving - ability to develop practical solutions

Very important	**14**
Somewhat important	**8**
Slightly important	**4**
Not at all important	**1**
I do not know	**1**

D28

2.8 p)Problem solving - ability to identify problems

Very important	**13**
Somewhat important	**10**
Slightly important	**4**
Not at all important	**0**
I do not know	**1**

D29

2.8 q)Problem solving - ability to plan and manage resources to solve the problem

Very important	**12**
Somewhat important	**8**
Slightly important	**7**
Not at all important	**0**
I do not know	**1**

D30

2.8 r)Creativity and innovation / entrepreneurial behaviour - ability to identify and seize opportunities

Very important	**9**
Somewhat important	**9**
Slightly important	**7**
Not at all important	**2**
I do not know	**1**

D31

2.8 s)Creativity and innovation / entrepreneurial behaviour -ability to translate ideas into action

Very important	**13**
Somewhat important	**7**
Slightly important	**6**
Not at all important	**0**
I do not know	**2**

D32

2.8 t)Creativity and innovation / entrepreneurial behaviour - ability to assess pros and cons of starting new businesses

Very important	**7**
Somewhat important	**7**
Slightly important	**7**
Not at all important	**4**
I do not know	**3**

D33

2.8 u)Self-management and career management - ability to recognize career opportunities within own and other cultural communities

Very important	**11**
Somewhat important	**8**
Slightly important	**5**
Not at all important	**2**
I do not know	**2**

D34

2.8 v)Self-management and career management -ability to set and prioritize your goals

Very important	**13**
Somewhat important	**7**
Slightly important	**7**
Not at all important	**0**
I do not know	**1**

D35

2.8 w)Self-management and career management - ability to cope with problems and manage stress

Very important	**12**
Somewhat important	**9**
Slightly important	**6**
Not at all important	**0**
I do not know	**1**

D36

2.8 x)Self-management and career management - ability to make decisions

Very important	**11**
Somewhat important	**10**
Slightly important	**6**
Not at all important	**0**
I do not know	**1**

D37

2.8 y)Self-management and career management - ability to show discipline and responsibility

Very important	**12**
Somewhat important	**9**
Slightly important	**6**
Not at all important	**0**
I do not know	**1**

D38

2.9 - Did you have a Learning Agreement with defined learning outcomes drawn up before your work-based learning?

Yes	**12**
No	**16**

D39

2.10 - If yes, was your Learning Agreement changed during your work-based learning?

Yes	**6**
No	**22**

D40

2.11 - If yes, why was the Learning Agreement changed?

I extended my work-based learning period	**3**
I decided to change the training initially selected	**0**
The hosting organisation required some changes	**3**
Other (please indicate)	**24**

D41

2.12 - Have been recognized the learning outcomes from your work-based learning experience (applicable only for work placement in another country)?

Yes	**4**
No	**24**

D42

If yes, how the learning outcome have been recognized?

ECVET credits	**0**
Europass	**2**
Other (please indicate)	**28**

D43

2.13 - What would you add to the study programme that would result in your better preparation for the apprenticeship and for employment? How could the study programme better prepare you for the apprenticeship and for employment? *Provide a summary of all given answers

Most respondents have commented that having dedicated WBL courses embedded into their local national curriculum would have facilitated a far smoother transition into apprenticeship opportunities and prepared them far better for employment. A high number of respondents feel that this is the direction the curriculum should go in to better support WBL post education and that teachers should have this in mind when transitioning students into WBL.

D44

2.14 - Were there any negative elements that hindered the successful implementation of the work-based learning?

colleagues were not willing to cooperate	**1**
the tasks assigned to me were irrelevant to my studies	**2**
no tasks were assigned to me	**1**
there was not adequate guidance and mentoring for the delivery of the assigned tasks	**5**
No	**21**
other- please specify	**0**

D45

2.15 - Were there any negative elements that hindered the successful implementation of the work-based learning?Which skills that you acquired during the apprenticeship period were the most important in terms of employability? During your apprenticeship what were the most important skills gained in terms of current or future employment?*Provide a summary of all given answers

A high number of respondents commented that they did not experience negative elements during their WBL. Skills that respondents highlighted were the ability to experience roles in a real time environment, which improved their CV's and in work experience. During apprenticeships the ability to actually experience the job role was invaluable to respondents and gain a much needed understanding of the employment and the role.

D46

2.16 - In terms of quality, how would you evaluate the work-based period?

Very good	**9**
Good	**13**
Medium	**5**
Poor	**0**
I do not know	**1**

D47

2.17 - Overall, how satisfied are you with the work-based learning?

Very satisfied	**11**
satisfied	**16**
dissatisfied	**0**
very dissatisfied	**1**
I do not know	**2**

D48

2.18 - How helpful was the work-based learning for your career path?

Very helpful	**12**
helpful	**9**
not helpful	**2**
not at all helpful	**1**
I do not know	**4**

D49

2.19 - What suggestions would you give to the companies to make the work-based learning experience more effective? *Provide a summary of all given answers

Respondents felt that the appointment of mentors during the life of the WBL should be mandatory as this would enrich their journey throughout WBL. Respondents also commented that employers should be clear with potential WBL candidates the support that they can expect within the organisation and having a named individual within an organisation would help with this. Respondents also felt that having a buddy (colleague) would also help make the experience a more rounded one. (guiding him/her and supporting in the assessment and self-awareness)

Pagina 4: 3. SECTION II: EMPLOYMENT STATUS

D50

3.1 - Are you currently employed or have you been employed after your studies?

Yes	**21**
No	**7**

D51

3.2 -Please tick your main employment status:

Permanent Full-time Employed (30 hours per week or more)	**9**
Permanent Part-time Employed (less than 30 hours per week)	**6**
Temporary Full-time Employed (30 hours per week or more)	**3**
Temporary Part-time Employed (less than 30 hours per week)	**1**
Self Employed	**2**

D52

3.3 - Is the job related to your study?

yes, it is exactly what I studied	**3**
it is partly related to what I studied	**11**
no, it is in a different area	**7**

D53

3.4 -What difficulties did you experience when looking for a job?

takes too long to find a job	**3**
employers are not interested in my area of specialization	**3**
gender preferences among employers	**1**
age preferences among employers	**5**
cultural/religious discriminations	**0**
discrimination for disabled people	**0**
lack of work experience	**7**
limited employment opportunities in my field	**6**
other, please specify	**6**

D54

3.5 -Approximately how many months passed between the time you completed your study and your first paid job?

I already had a job during my study	**8**
A month or less	**4**
2-6 months	**7**
7-12 months	**2**
more than 12 months	**9**

D55

3.6 -Please indicate the sector of your job

Private sector: industry	**4**
Private sector: services	**2**
Private sector: other	**4**
Research and Technology organisation	**0**
Government and other public sector	**3**
Medical and health care (including veterinary)	**1**
Education	**0**
Private non-profit sector	**3**
Other (please specify)	**2**

D56

3.7 -Which of the following competences are most important in your job? *Report for each option the number of associated answers

Technical skills	**5**
Learning to learn - ability to motivate myself to learn new stuff	**4**
Learning to learn - ability to take responsibility for own learning	**14**
Learning to learn - ability to interpret and communicate information	**6**
Learning to learn - ability to invest time and effort in learning new skills	**11**
Communication - ability to explain work instructions to colleagues	**8**
Communication - ability to speak of work performance in a work environment language	**0**
Communication - ability to articulate your own work-related ideas, thoughts, opinions and feelings	**0**
Communication - ability to work and communicate in multicultural environments	**3**
Team-work - ability to respect thoughts and opinions of team-members	**0**
Team-work - ability to work towards group consensus in decision-making	**2**
Team-work - ability to accept feedback on improvements	**0**
Team-work - ability to value other person's contribution	**0**
Team-work - ability to share information openly	**0**
Problem solving - ability to develop practical solutions	**0**
Problem solving - ability to identify problems	**0**
Problem solving - ability to plan and manage resources to solve the problem	**0**
Creativity and innovation / entrepreneurial behaviour - ability to identify and seize opportunities	**0**
Creativity and innovation / entrepreneurial behaviour - ability to translate ideas into action	**1**
Creativity and innovation / entrepreneurial behaviour - ability to use critical thinking in creative processes	**0**
Creativity and innovation / entrepreneurial behaviour - ability to assess pros and cons of starting new businesses	**0**
Self-management and career management - ability to recognize career opportunities within own and other cultural communities	**7**

Self-management and career management - ability to set and prioritize your goals	**7**

D57

3.8 a)Salary

Very satisfied	**2**
Satisfied	**11**
Unsatisfied	**8**
Very unsatisfied	**0**
I do not know	**0**

D58

3.8 b)Benefits

Very satisfied	**3**
Satisfied	**7**
Unsatisfied	**10**
Very unsatisfied	**0**
I do not know	**1**

D59

3.8 c)Insurance

Very satisfied	**1**
Satisfied	**6**
Unsatisfied	**9**
Very unsatisfied	**3**
I do not know	**2**

D60

3.8 d)Relevance to my studies

Very satisfied	**4**
Satisfied	**8**
Unsatisfied	**7**
Very unsatisfied	**0**
I do not know	**2**

D61

3.8 e)Autonomy

Very satisfied	4
Satisfied	8
Unsatisfied	7
Very unsatisfied	0
I do not know	2

D62

3.8 f)Personal fulfilment

Very satisfied	6
Satisfied	9
Unsatisfied	5
Very unsatisfied	0
I do not know	1

D63

3.8 g)Work conditions

Very satisfied	13
Satisfied	4
Unsatisfied	3
Very unsatisfied	1

D64

3.8 h)Career prospect

Very satisfied	3
Satisfied	11
Unsatisfied	5
Very unsatisfied	0
I do not know	0

D65

3.8 i)Social impact

Very satisfied	**6**
Satisfied	**6**
Unsatisfied	**5**
Very unsatisfied	**2**
I do not know	**2**

D66

3.9 -What subject/s helped you in your work? Can you give an example on how these subjects helped you in your work? *Provide a summary of all given answers

I would say the compound between humanistic subjects such as history, art, psychology and the scientific subjects
such as logic and design at different levels helped me in develop my practice and design thinking and processes.
All of them, in particular ICT with having to work on various software in more detail - especially microsoft packages
in various different ways and for various tasks

D67

3.10 -In your daily work, do you feel that you miss some skills that could be developed during your studies? What subjects/topics or co-curricular activities would you suggest to improve the curriculum of the program you finished? In your day-to-day work activities are there skills needed in the workplace that could be developed during your studies? Now that you have experienced applying your skills and competence to the workplace, how could the curriculum of the programme be improved to reflect what is needed in the workplace?*Provide a summary of all given answers

A high number of respondents felt that having a higher number of vocational based and technical subjects included
within national curriculums would provide a far greater benefit to them in their transition into WBL. Within the
workplace respondents have felt that having dedicated mentors and work buddies would improve the WBL experience in the workplace.

D68

3.11 a)My study programme properly prepared me for my job

Strongly disagree	**3**
Disagree	**5**
Agree	**8**
Strongly agree	**3**
I do not know	**3**

D69

3.11 b)If I could restart my career, I would select the same study programme again

Strongly disagree	**5**
Disagree	**7**
Agree	**3**
Strongly agree	**5**
I do not know	**1**

D70

3.11 c)The transition to my first job after study programme was easy

Strongly disagree	**3**
Disagree	**4**
Agree	**4**
Strongly agree	**8**
I do not know	**2**

Pagina 5: 4. SECTION III. DEMOGRAPHICS

D71

4.1 - Country

25 England- 5 Spain

D72

4.2 - City

25 London
5 Malaga

D73

4.3 - Year of birth

1996	**3**
1997	**2**
1998	**3**
1999	**5**
2000	**1**
2001	**1**
2002	**0**
2003	**0**
2004	**0**
2005	**0**

D74

4.4 - Gender

Male	**19**
Female	**9**
Other	**2**

D75

4.5 - In which year did you start your studies?

2010	**8**
2011	**1**
2012	**1**
2013	**1**
2014	**2**
2015	**1**
2016	**4**
2017	**2**
2018	**1**
2019	**6**
2020	**1**

D76

4.6 - In which year did you graduate (if you are a graduate)?

Not graduated - still in school	**0**
2011	**0**
2012	**2**
2013	**0**
2014	**2**
2015	**3**
2016	**1**
2017	**4**
2018	**2**
2019	**1**
2020	**9**

D77

4.7 - What was your field of study? *Provide a list of all given answers

N/A
0

Pagina 6: 5. Additional Notes

D78

5.1 - Report here any additional questions in your local version of the survey or any further comment regarding the survey's structure

There were no additional questions in the local version of the survey. Some of the imputing in terms of questionnaire structure could have been amended

Pagina 7: 6. Eduwork.Net Survey Evaluation

D79   **Yes**

6.1 - In order to permanently adopt the Eduwork.Net questionnaire as a tool for monitoring WBL experiences, do you think you should tailor it to the needs of your organisation or network?

D80

6.2 - Motivate your answer

Questions should reflect on local /region variances on VET provision etc. Also the focus of the organisation and outcome opportunities

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D81

6.3 - Provide an evaluation of the survey tool, from a technical point of view.

It was easy to review the answers	**Agree**
It was easy to create and edit the questionnaire	**Agree**
The questionnaire did not work correctly, there were technical problems	**Strongly agree**

Pagina 8: 7. Final Summary

D82

7.1 - Report an overall summary of all questionnaires highlighting strengths and weaknesses, suggestions and recommendations for improving the WBL experience in relation to students, trainers and companies.

When the initial report was submitted at the beginning of May we had a limited number of replies from learners,
due to the national lockdown measures surrounding Covid-19. We did not feel the surveys would allow us to make meaningful
recommendations and so we requested and were granted a short extension.
Fortunately, since then we have been able to gather a good number of responses from a cross section of learners
across different demographics. We have also been able to get responses from those who have undertaken
training or employment in the UK and are now based in other parts of Europe, which enhances the survey. Our
cross section of respondents has been diverse, ensuring feedback represents the experience of a wide audience.
In terms of the survey there has been positive feedback from respondents. Overwhelmingly participants have found their work based
learning useful and beneficial to their career and felt that had improved their opportunities
for progression. The opportunity to develop soft skills such as communication skills and teamwork is stressed by the majority of the
respondents. When asked what they felt could be improved in wbl provision, some requested
more clarity from the outset from employers and also the designation of a mentor or in work buddy – this points to
the training and induction of employers and how important it is to quality WBL provision. Interestingly the ability to learn and the ability
to 'learn-to learn' scored extremely highly across the respondents in relation to the most important skills needed for their job – showing
that there is a recognition and an appreciation of the need for continued learning and development. Self management and career
management were also identified as areas
participants felt were essential.
Other suggestions were related to the actual format of the questionnaire and are technical, around how the survey transitions from
different questions and how some of the information is imputed.
Overall, despite there being a number of challenges. Namely having to collate the information entirely remotely,
the responses and the overall questionnaire dissemination have gone well.