

Peterborough Regional College offer Rush Hockey sessions as part of their Learner Engagement (NEET) College Sport Maker offer. Christopher Bryden, the College Sport Marker, tells us about the sessions where the emphasis is on creating a fun, social activity amongst peers in a sport that was accessible to both male and female students.

### How have the sessions been received?

The sessions have been exceptionally popular with 15 students, who were challenging to engage with at the start of the year, regularly getting the opportunity to experience NGB 'FE' products.

The culture shift from week one, where the majority of the students had to be asked to pick up a hockey stick to weeks five and six, where they arrived at the venue and simply started playing, directly supports Sport England's remit for College Sport Makers of changing the culture of FE students' in relation to sport participation.

### How have sessions been developed and how has the programme contributed to wider learning outcomes?

The initial sessions were set up to engage with NEET's. Due to the success of the initial sessions the provision within the department has widened to running sessions for another group of students from the Learner Engagement Department.

The Rush Hockey sessions have contributed to the wider learning outcomes of the college by embodying the college mission statement of 'raising aspiration, realising potential and inspiring success'. Furthermore, the sessions have helped raise student attendance significantly as the College Sport Maker session has become a favourite mainstay in the department's curriculum.

### What's next for Rush Hockey at Peterborough Regional College?

During the next academic year we are looking to continue to develop our Rush Hockey provision by working in partnership with Vivacity again from late September to offer sessions for our new NEET students for a period of 11 weeks. Peterborough Regional College is also developing targeted sessions for other curriculum areas, linking student demand to relevant National Governing Body products.

### What would be your advice for other colleges looking to run sessions?

The value of offering targeted Rush Hockey sessions for the Learner Engagement has been widespread. As the College Sport Maker role at Peterborough Regional College solely focuses on offering sessions to underrepresented groups across the college, it has assisted in improving the overall department SAR (Self Assessment Review) as it demonstrates students are becoming involved in additional activities outside of their study programme.

The sessions have been fun as students were given the ‘hollywood’ experience by the College Sport Maker, which involved taking team photos, which showcased the student’s achievements regardless of their sporting ability. The students became more involved as the sessions progressed as natural leaders emerged, implementing Rush Hockey tactics on their respective teams.

### How to get involved?

If you want more information on Rush Hockey or are interested in running your own session, please contact us at [Rushhockey@englandhockey.co.uk](mailto:Rushhockey@englandhockey.co.uk) or call 01628 897500.