



The benefits of an extended orientation

BEYOND THE PRACTICALITIES OF NEWNESS

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Rationale

- Increase social inclusion and student engagement
- Help with transitioning into NZ/VUW culture
- Increase students' sense of social self-efficacy
- Increase the uptake of services
- Increase academic success

Delivery

- Spaced out structured delivery at start of trimester
- Broad and continuing platform with involvement of 4 other structured interventions
- Abundant opportunity for immediate and subsequent application
- Attendance on opt-out basis
- Stamp card system

Student involvement

- FNDN activities programme
- International Buddy Programme (IBP)
- Victoria Plus Programme (VicPLus)
- Victoria International Leadership Programme (VILP)



Staff involvement

- Student Learning (SL)
- Victoria International (VI)
- Language Learning Centre (LLC)
- Foundation Studies Programme



Extended Orientation

First Friday

'Making Social Contact' - 'Excel on Campus'

- Rationale
- Roleplays with volunteers
- Buddy afternoon tea

Second Friday

'Seeking Help and Information' – 'Excel on Campus'

- Rationale
- Roleplays with volunteers
- Buddy afternoon tea

Third Friday

Interactive tour of the Language Learning Centre (LLC)


- Explanation of services offered
- Use language software
- Activity with volunteers/buddies

“ I feel more confident and
it is helpful for my study

”



FNDN STUDENT FEEDBACK ON THE EXTENDED ORIENTATION PROGRAMME



““ Because it is the first time I have been to NZ. So asking for help is very important for me.


””

FNDN STUDENT ON THE EXTENDED ORIENTATION PROGRAMME

“ Positive experience because it can meet the new friends and improve my English and know more NZ. ”

FNDN STUDENT ON EXTENDED ORIENTATION PROGRAMME





“Free dinner.
Less time in one topic so
there can be more topics”

FNDN STUDENTS ON THE EXTENDED ORIENTATION

Reflections

- ▶ Good attendance rate
- ▶ International and domestic engagement
- ▶ Ex-FNDN students reciprocate by becoming buddies
- ▶ Building of a community
- ▶ Increased student uptake in services
- ▶ More engaged students in class
- ▶ More students asking questions
- ▶ Some evidence of increased academic success

Reflections

- ▶ More time for role plays
- ▶ More information on cultural values of giving negative feedback (IBP matches)
- ▶ More time for actual use of the software (LLC) rather than tour
- ▶ More resources to assess/evaluate impact

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