

# Learning impediment diary

## Resource

This resource is a proforma for teachers who wish to keep a record of learning impediments they meet in their teaching.

## Rationale

Students' 'failures to learn' may have many causes, some of which the teacher has little influence over. Many failures, however, can be seen to at least partially due to the students prior knowledge not matching up to the teacher's expectations. This can be due to gaps in knowledge, or the presence of alternative conceptions, or simply the failure of the student to 'make the connection' that the teacher intends.

These ideas are discussed in Chapter 4 of the Teachers' notes. It is suggested there that diagnosing the source of the problems - the nature of the 'learning impediments' - can be very useful for the teacher. Such diagnosis can provide feedback useful for planning future teaching, as well as when helping the individual learner. In Chapter 4, a simple scheme for classifying 'learning impediments' is presented, accompanied by suggestions for how the different types of impediment are best tackled.

## Instructions

Instances of students not understanding, or 'understanding differently' (misunderstanding), material that has been covered in class are commonly recognised in classroom exchanges, tests, homework exercises etc. A **Learning impediment record** sheet is provided for keeping notes about learning impediments identified. Chapter 4 of the Teachers' notes provides a simple 3-step guide for using the record sheets.

# Learning impediment record sheet

Date:

Teaching group:

Topic:

Student(s):

**Description of shortcoming:**

**Nature of learning impediment:**

**Action to be taken with student/group:**

**Points for future planning:**

**Outcome:**

