



Learner Profile

The learner profile was developed to collect baseline data from learners participating in the JISC [Learners' Experiences of e-Learning](#) projects and in other projects evaluating the learner perspective on the use of technologies for learning. This version was based on the experience of projects in collecting valuable and comparable data, and has been used in 7 institutions where it had ethical approval for collecting learner-related data.

You are free to adapt and use this profile in any context of work involving learners and technology. Please note that we do not recommend using it in this format, which is designed to communicate the *content* of questions to other researchers. For delivery to learners, consideration needs to be given to the format, medium (e.g. paper or web-based for self-completion, verbally as an interview schedule), as well as pragmatically how data will be collated, stored and analysed. If you are producing a paper or web-based version you will need also to give consideration to how this is designed.

If you plan to use this or any other data collection instrument for gathering data about learners you *must*:

- achieve ethical approval from your own institution for gathering data from learners using a version of this tool;
- ensure that individual approval is received from every student completing the profile for their answers to be collected onto a database and used for analysis;
- inform every student completing the profile how their data will be stored and how it will be used for analysis; ideally you should also inform them how it will be used to support their learning experience;
- ensure that data collected from learners is kept securely;
- ensure that any publications or reports based on the data you collect do not allow individual learners to be identified.

More information about [ethical issues](#) involved in using this profile, including example consent forms for learners, can be accessed from the Learners' Experiences wiki.

Information about you	
Name:	
Contact email: (Confidential This will only be used by researchers to contact you with results or possibly for more information)	
Reference number: (allows data to be anonymised)	Age:
Gender: <i>Male</i> <i>Female</i>	First language: <i>English</i> <i>Other (please state)</i>
Educational status (tick one): <i>In full time education</i> <i>In part time education</i> <i>Not in education</i>	
Employment status (hours per week; tick one): <i>Full time 30+ hours</i> <i>Part time <30 hours</i> <i>Part time <10 hours</i> <i>Not employed</i>	
Other responsibilities e.g. caring for children/dependents? <i>yes</i> <i>no</i> If yes, please state:	
Main programme of study (tick one): <i>A level</i> <i>NVQ</i> <i>Foundation</i> <i>Undergraduate year 1</i> <i>Undergraduate year 2</i> <i>Undergraduate year 3</i> <i>Postgraduate</i> <i>Other (please state)</i>	
Highest previous educational qualification (tick one): <i>no qualifications</i> <i>NVQ level 1- 3</i> <i>GCSE</i> <i>A level</i> <i>Foundation degree</i> <i>Undergraduate degree</i> <i>NVQ level 4-5</i> <i>Postgraduate certificate or diploma</i> <i>Postgraduate degree</i>	
Main place of study (tick one): <i>Home/student residence</i> <i>Home/residence using a computer connected to the Internet</i> <i>Workplace</i> <i>College/university/learning centre</i> <i>Other (please state)</i>	
Any accessibility issues (see below for examples of what we mean): <i>yes</i> <i>no</i> If 'yes' and you are willing to indicate the nature of your difficulties, please tick all that apply: <i>Specific learning difficulty (eg dyslexia)</i> <i>Blind or partially sighted</i> <i>Deaf or hard of hearing</i> <i>Wheelchair user or mobility difficulties</i> <i>Autistic Spectrum Disorder or Asperger Syndrome</i> <i>Mental health difficulties</i> <i>Other difficulties (please state)</i>	

Information about your technology use	
<p>1. I have access to a computer connected to the Internet (tick all that apply): <i>At home/student residence At work At university/college/learning centre Other location (please state)</i></p>	
<p>2. I use a computer (tick one): <i>Every day A few times a week Less than once a week less than once a month</i></p>	
<p>3. I access email and/or the internet (tick one): <i>Every day A few times a week Less than once a week less than once a month</i></p>	
<p>4. I have customised my computer* to suit my personal preferences (please see below for examples of what we mean): <i>yes no</i></p> <p>If yes, please indicate which of the following you have customised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>tool bar(s) and menu items</i> ▪ <i>mouse buttons</i> ▪ <i>background colours</i> ▪ <i>icon sizes</i> ▪ <i>print size on screen</i> ▪ <i>language</i> ▪ <i>other (please state)</i> 	
<p>5. I own the following technologies for my personal use (tick all that apply):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>mobile phone</i> ▪ <i>iPod or mp3 player* ^ü</i> ▪ <i>palmtop or personal digital assistant (PDA) **</i> ▪ <i>laptop</i> ▪ <i>digital camera* *</i> ▪ <i>digital video camera**</i> ▪ <i>webcam</i> ▪ <i>digital audio recorder</i> ▪ <i>assistive technology: hardware or software (e.g. screen reader)</i> 	<p>6. In my personal and social life I do the following (tick all that apply):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Use social networking websites (e.g. MySpace, Flickr or Facebook)</i> ▪ <i>Download podcasts</i> ▪ <i>Use instant messaging or chat (e.g. MSN, iChat)</i> ▪ <i>Watch videos or live TV on websites</i> ▪ <i>Upload video or photo content onto the internet</i> ▪ <i>Use on-demand video</i> ▪ <i>Use advanced functions on my mobile phone (e.g. Mobile TV, Web browser, GPS or email)</i> ▪ <i>Participate in online discussion groups or chatrooms</i>

^ü By 'my computer' we mean a computer that you access and use regularly.

^ü * Also tick if your mobile phone has this function.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Use wikis/blogs/online networks</i> ▪ <i>Maintain my own blog or website</i> ▪ <i>Take part in an online community, e.g. a “virtual world” such as Second Life</i>
<p>7. I am able to use my personal technologies (including assistive technologies) at the place where I learn: <i>yes no</i></p> <p>If no, please briefly describe any difficulties you have encountered.</p>	
<p>8. As a <i>learner</i>, I have experience of (tick all that apply):</p> <p>Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Using a search engine (e.g. Google) to find out about a subject</i> ▪ <i>Using an electronic library or portal (e.g. wikipedia, subject-based resource) to find out about a subject</i> ▪ <i>Using web forums or social spaces to find out about a subject</i> ▪ <i>Using online learning materials (e.g. manuals, tutorials, e-books, lecture notes) I found for myself</i> <p>Software</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Using word-processing software (e.g. Word) to write an assignment</i> ▪ <i>Using spreadsheets or data analysis software (e.g. Excel)</i> ▪ <i>Using modelling/simulation packages (e.g. geometry, CAD, 3D graphics)</i> ▪ <i>Using design tools e.g. graphic/animation/web design</i> <p>Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Submitting materials for assessment online</i> ▪ <i>Taking a computer-based test or examination</i> <p>Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Using a web page, wiki or blog to present information</i> ▪ <i>Using PowerPoint (or other slideshow software) to present information</i> ▪ <i>Using an e-portfolio</i> ▪ <i>Using an electronic whiteboard</i> <p>Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Contacting tutor using email</i> ▪ <i>Using an online discussion forum to share ideas with other learners</i> ▪ <i>Accessing course materials (e.g. slides, notes, podcasts) via a VLE</i> ▪ <i>Video or audio conferencing</i> <p>Mobile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Learning via a mobile phone or PDA</i> 	