Opening Educational Practices in Scotland

OEPS

About OEPS

OEPS is a cross-sector project funded by the Scottish Funding Council and led by the Open University in Scotland. The aim of the project is to increase the scale of use of open educational resources (OER) in Scotland; to develop greater understanding of the potential of these resources and to have a particular focus on how OER and open educational

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practices (OEP) can contribute to widening participation and supporting transitions. There is more information on the project blog and website www.oepscotland.org.
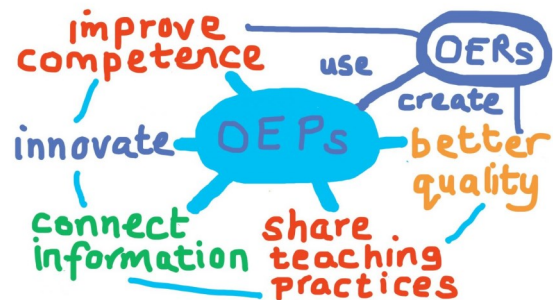
What we understand by OER and OEP

REMIX *retain*
5 Rs
revise **redistribute**
reuse

Our understanding of OER is grounded in established notions of openly licensed content. We have a specific focus on freedoms afforded by openly licensing content (allowing "The 5 Rs": retain, reuse, revise, remix, redistribute) and the degree to which design development and distribution accounts for equity and openness.

We think of OEP as those educational practices that are concerned with and promote equity and openness. Our understanding of 'open' builds on the freedoms associated with "the 5 Rs" of OER, promoting a broader sense of open, emphasising social justice, and developing practices that open up opportunities for those distanced from education.

Contact us

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Useful links

The OEPS Community Hub

One of the outputs of the project is a website that aims to bring together examples of good practice in the use of OER. The hub is designed to be driven by the broad community of interest in OER and OEP and also allows for the development of specialist communities of practice. The hub is a work in progress but you can find a range of useful case studies and look in on the embryo communities of practice that it hosts. The hub can be found at www.oeps.ac.uk

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OpenLearnWorks

This is a public site www.open.edu/openlearnworks/ provided by the Open University

where other organisations can host OER. It is currently being upgraded to include a new authoring tool. OEPS is working with a number of partner organisations to develop new material on the site.

Badged Online Courses

Badged OER 'access' courses at http://www.open.edu/openlearn/get-started/badges-come-openlearn . Ten currently available – eleven more in the pipeline.

Producing OER in partnership

As part of its remit the project is tasked to produce a small set of exemplar OER that link to the development of good practice. Two of these exemplars are:

Understanding Parkinsons involved a partnership with Parkinson's UK and is designed principally for use by individuals working in the care sector. The course can be found at

http://www.open.edu/openlearnworks/UnderstandingParkinsons

My seaweed looks weird OER results from collaboration with researchers at the Scottish

Association for Marine Science and focuses on the sharing of specialised knowledge. This course can be found at

http://www.open.edu/openlearnworks/SAMS_SeaweedWeird