



## ***JISC RSC Scotland South & West Case Study @South Lanarkshire College***

### **A cross college approach to provide free enabling technologies to all staff and students**

#### **Podcast Transcripts - Students at South Lanarkshire College**

**Margaret McKay:** Hello my name is Margaret McKay and I am the inclusion advisor for the RSC Scotland South and West and today at South Lanarkshire College I am going. I am joined by four students who have been using MyStudyBar in one way or another to support their studies.

We have Katie who is studying HNC Accountancy, Daniel NC Digital Media and Paul/Rosie Access to Humanities course.

Today we are going to talk about the MyStudyBar Initiative. You are all using MyStudyBar in one way or another?

**Students:** Paul and myself found out through our guidance tutor Jean who showed us the application and gave us a quick tutorial of how it works, we were shown the different tools and provided with the opportunity to try out the different applications.

**Margaret McKay:** Did the tutor talk about ALL the applications?

**Students:** No more learning styles and some of us were more visual so she suggested mind mapping. Lorraine introduced me to it because I get lost when I am reading and because we do a lot of notes. She suggested that it would be good for me to help me read lines – The VU Bar

I got diagnosed with scotopic sensitivity were I can't read on white paper so with MyStudyBar applications I can change the colour to yellow or green and I can read the notes on my computer and play them back.

**Margaret McKay:** So you listen to your work back?

**Students:** Yes I repeat words and it shows me where I went wrong when I read them back because when I look I don't notice them.

I have diagnosed with dyslexia and I am going to be getting yellow glasses.

**Margaret McKay:** So when you found out about MyStudyBar what support did you get in learning how to use the package?

**Students:** We were given an idea of roughly what it was about and encouraged to go away and find out about it ourselves.

I think for me I am more of a visual learner so having the mind mapping software there to use it is good to be able to put subjects into different colours and highlight them. Then you have a visual of it and it is easier when doing exams to see how things/themes relate.

**Margaret McKay:** So you can categorize things by different colours? Does that help remember themes?

**Students:** Yes it helps break down subjects instead of page of page of text and sub headings help refresh your memory with psychology and sociology.

Instead of loads and loads of notes you have it condensed into something that makes more sense to you on the one page. For me it is really helpful.

**Margaret McKay:** So in some ways if you closed your eyes you could visualize your mind map in your mind's eye?

**Students:** That's exactly what it is for. Elaine Rodgers in learning support gave me a few tutorials and showed me how to use the tools to help me get by on my course.

For me Lorraine told me to go online and try some stuff on line, some videos I could watch again.

**Margaret McKay:** How do you use MyStudyBar on the college computer or elsewhere?

I have it at College and at home on my pen drive to use there. I am getting my assessments done on time now and my studying is a lot better than at the beginning of the year. With the pen drive I can take my software wherever I need it.

We are the same we have a copy on a pen drive and when we go home we can update our mind map and it keeps our studying in check either in class or home.

I just use it in the college; it is on the computer that we use.

**Margaret McKay:** You give them if they were thinking about using it?

**Students:** I think it is a really good bit of software, it really does help you. I think for me the thing was sitting down with it and taking time to get to know the different applications and once you do this it is really easy. Until you sit down and find your own feet you find that it is not too bad and it is actually really useful

Don't be frightened and there are many applications that will help you somewhere down the line.