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This leaflet is one of a series of Academy leaflets. Visit the website to find out what other leaflets are available [www.heacademy.ac.uk/leaflets.htm](http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/leaflets.htm)

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**“Many universities and colleges have asked for our help to enhance the student learning experience through a more effective use of ICT.”**

Cliff Allan, Director of Programmes,  
The Higher Education Academy

### **Working in Partnership**

The Academy will work with the Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) and other national bodies to support the embedding of new learning technologies within higher education.

To find out more, visit the e-learning pages on the Academy's website at [www.heacademy.ac.uk/e-learning.htm](http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/e-learning.htm)

# e-Learning



**The  
Higher  
Education  
Academy**



**e-Learning is ...  
any learning that uses information and  
communications technologies (ICT).**



## e-Learning

**There are increasing and varied pressures driving the greater use of e-learning within UK higher education. There is no doubt that new technologies provide exciting opportunities for enhancement and innovation in learning.**

Across UK higher education institutions, there is a great diversity of e-learning development and implementation. Often there are pockets of development rather than a strategic institution wide planned approach. e-Learning will develop and become a normal part of teaching and learning only through the efforts of universities and colleges, their senior managers, individual practitioners and subject and practice communities, and students themselves.

### **Institutions**

e-Learning can help institutions meet a greater diversity of student needs, increase flexibility of provision, integrate study with work and leisure, and enable students to self-manage their learning.

The Academy will help institutions to use new technology effectively so that e-learning becomes a normal (or embedded) part of their activities. We will support institutions' own e-learning missions, enabling them to realise their aspirations while becoming more student focussed.

A Pathfinder Programme is being created to help Institutions initiate and take forward large-scale change based on their own needs as an integral part of their learning and teaching strategy. This includes the opportunity for all HEFCE funded institutions to participate in a self-assessed benchmarking exercise. We will be launching both of these programmes during 2006/2007.

### **Subject Communities**

The Academy supports subject communities' use of e-learning through its Subject Network. All 24 Subject Centres are addressing the subject differences surrounding embedding e-learning technologies. They are exploring the issues surrounding the sharing of digital resources and e-learning uptake.

### **Individuals**

The Academy is working closely with the Heads of e-Learning Forum (HeLF) which represents over 100 UK HE institutions.

The Academy also celebrates innovation, good practice and achievement in the field of e-learning through the e-Tutor of the Year Award. This is an annual award which is co-sponsored by the Times Higher Education Supplement.

### **Pedagogy & Research**

The Academy works to advance the pedagogy of e-learning and is a partner in the e-Learning Research Centre (eLRC). The eLRC aims to identify and investigate research problems in the field of e-learning that are of strategic importance for the sector as a whole. It considers developments nationally and internationally, in order to address the common needs of institutions and developers.

The Academy is also closely involved with the eChina programme. This HEFCE funded initiative includes various projects which are developing innovative e-learning courseware to train teachers as well as an overarching research project (see [www.echinaprogramme.org](http://www.echinaprogramme.org)).

[www.heacademy.ac.uk](http://www.heacademy.ac.uk)