

Panagraph and Aimhigher Student Tracking Software

The Aimhigher programme was sponsored by the Department of Business Innovation and Skills with the aim to help make more people aware of what higher education is all about and encourage them to consider higher education as an option. Regional Aimhigher groups were set up to run the programme which was about making everyone aware of the benefits higher education can bring, whatever their background, so that people who had not considered higher education were better informed and could make a decision on entering higher education. Aimhigher activities took place across 44 local areas in England.

The Aimhigher software we developed managed over 150,000 learners/students through the programme.



Figure 1 Aimhigher Gateway login screen

Some of the main tasks of the Aimhigher programme were

- Identifying and targeting the students with information on the Aimhigher programme
- Once identified Aimhigher would build up the profile of the students
- Aimhigher programme groups would take the students through certain activities such as
 - visits to university campuses
 - residential summer schools
 - master-classes and open days
 - mentoring schemes
- Track their progress and produce reports and analysis
- Follow up to see what the outcomes were and if they did enter higher education

We were commissioned by the Aimhigher programmes in West Yorkshire, Humberside and the North Yorkshire to provide an online portal where details of students, activities and outcomes could be stored securely and then the data could be analysed and reported on.

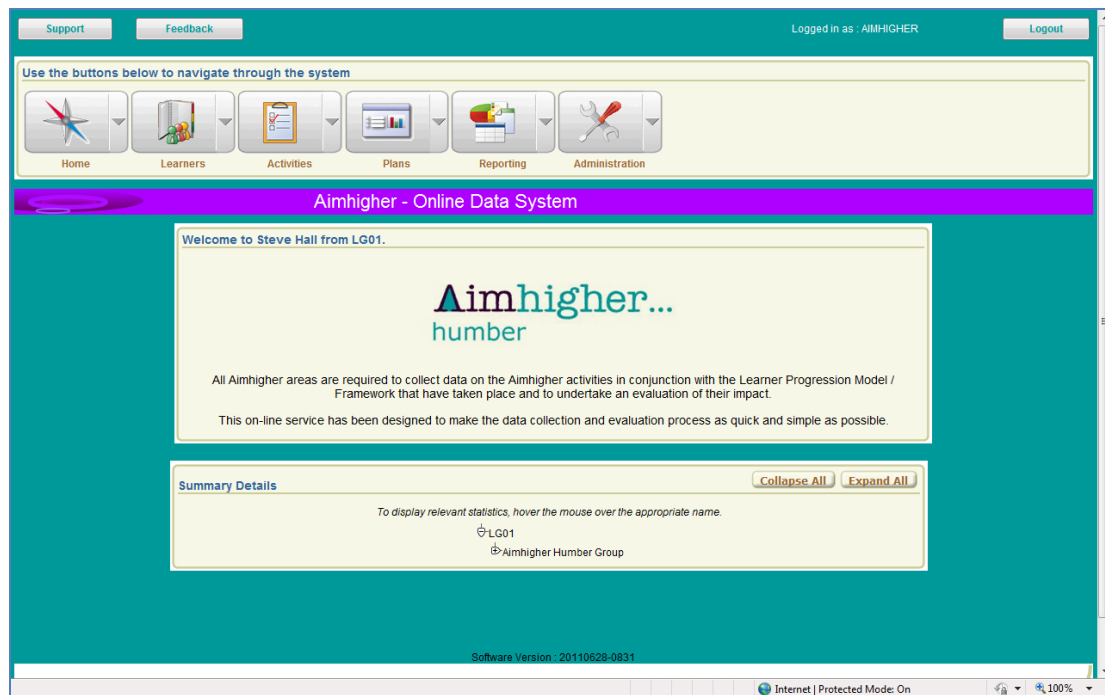


Figure 2 the main Aimhigher tracker screen

- The online system developed for Aimhigher provided a way of effective targeting of young people and adults largely from specific selected learner cohorts, enabling the delivery of a Higher Education Progression Framework.
- The system has an on-line tracking system which captures all details of the student cohort, the activities they take part in.
- A calendar system was integrated into the system so that details of the 20,000 plus activities across the regions could be posted.
- The Aimhigher teams were able to measure the changes in the students' perceptions using a questionnaire facility in the system and a very positive outcome was that the system enabled the sharing of good practice.
- Tailored reports across the full range of system data enabled the Aimhigher teams to monitor progress and report on the outcomes of the students to see if they did enter higher education.

The Aimhigher teams found the system easy to use and significantly helped them to deliver their programmes and activities and track and monitor students' progress and outcomes.