

# Early start scheme on M140

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## Why

1. A previous eSTEem project collected advice from students to future students ( eSTEem “Success against the odds”).

The top three tips included

- Get Organised and
- Get ahead

2 Right student, right

module , right time - students can try M140 and see if M140 , and OU study, are right for them before they reach fee liability fees

3 All our students are

different- so why should all starting on 1<sup>st</sup> October suit all of them?



## What we are doing

- Students who are registered on M140 by 1<sup>st</sup> July will be offered the opportunity to “start early”. The students will be identified and sent a joint invitation from one of the two tutors involved in the scheme and the module chair.
- The students will have access to a module page- similar to that for resit students- that has all the electronic resources, a “M140 web page”, a forum, the practice quizzes, screencasts, interactive computer resources and the previous year’s TMA01, and an allocated TUTOR. Students will be able to download and use the software used on M140
- The tutor will be their “early start” tutor until 2 weeks before module start when their presentation tutor will be allocated. The “early start” website will be closed when the main presentation website opens.
- The tutor will run tutorials and support students in exactly the same way as they would at the usually. They may “mark” and give feedback on an attempt on the previous year’s TMA01
- The tutor will collect student views just before they hand over to the “presentation” tutor and at three and six months into the presentation – so we get student views with “hindsight” as well as at the time.
- Main presentation tutors will be told which of their students took part in the “Early start “ scheme and the information will be logged onto VOICE. The SST/SRSC will be aware of the project

## What will it tell us

Something about

- student demand for a more flexible start
- the problems with an early start
- students views both initially and with hindsight of the benefits of an early start to them
- students views both initially and with hindsight of continuing contact with someone who is NOT marking their assignments
- tutor views- both of the “early start “ tutors and the “presentation” tutors
- Numerical information on any change in patterns of withdrawals or changes prior to and after module start – compared to previous two years