

Working Remotely - Thought-Leadership

There have been various articles and social media comments about the 'good, the bad and the ugly' when working from home. It really comes down to

each company or NHS organisation's attitude as well as their individual approach to the practicalities.

The article below reports on the NHS staff survey involving more than 5,000 participants saying: "Many health professionals are keen to continue working remotely although some have reservations." NHS staff in England want to keep remote working | PublicTechnology.net

The majority wished to continue working remotely but the survey revealed some NHS staff feel a lack of technical support when IT systems issues arise and also a lack of easy access to some paper records and data.

Clearly, it's about getting the balance right. At ALSG, we've developed Remotely Enhanced training models which have involved delivering some education online so as to reduce face-to-face contact.

Sarah Dormor, an APLS instructor recently described how she felt delivering courses remotely, saying: "I think having candidates sitting in a physical room for lectures seems pointless, when you are trying to minimise contact and teaching remotely was just as effective.

"The course's online breakout rooms worked really well and allowed for the instructors to drill down and focus on specific areas, as well as seeking feedback from candidates in smaller groupings."

In order to get the balance right, a portion of face-to-face is still embedded in the training packages and at ALSG we have put a lot of time, effort and thought into ensuring there are meaningful learning encounters at every stage of the course whether it's face-to-face or online.

Through this 'blended learning' approach, none of the learning outcomes are lost so, we hope we are 'giving the best of both worlds' to our candidates and our skilful lecturers. We continue to promote our fully face-to-face courses for those who prefer that format, because we know that our candidates and faculty have a range of preferences.

It's about being practical, assessing where it's appropriate to use online functionality, as well as being flexible in the delivery of the range of training packages.

Kate Denning, Director of Education, ALSG