Diamond Nine Exercise: Quick Guide for Personal Tutors

Introduction

The ‘Diamond Nine’ exercise can be used to encourage students to engage with Aberdeen Graduate Attributes and consider what they mean, how they are personally relevant, and how they might evidence their attribute development.

Method

Encourage students to explore the 19 Aberdeen Graduate Attributes cards. Then arrange their top NINE Aberdeen Graduate Attributes into a diamond hierarchy, in which the top line (only one card) is the most important, the second line (two cards) features the next most important, the third line (three cards) the next, and then decrease through two cards to the final one card to complete the diamond (see diagram).

Aberdeen Graduate Attribute cards are available for printing from the Personal Tutors website under Resources for Graduate Attributes meetings.

Students can complete the exercise as an individual, or in a pair or a small group.

Discussion

Review students’ final DIAMOND NINE hierarchy results and encourage students to:

- Discuss why and how decisions were made to select and prioritise the final diamond nine.
- Explain their understanding of selected attributes.
- Reflect on their academic performance in taught courses and their attribute development.
- Think about appropriate evidence and examples to demonstrate their attribute development.
- Reflect on how co-curricular activities* also support their attribute development.

*Co-curricular activities complement the academic curriculum and include work placements, study abroad, volunteering, participating in Students’ Association Clubs and Societies etc.