Audio transcript

Supervisor

I've had to be quite clear about the purpose of our professional supervision sessions – for myself and for Jay, the student I'm supervising....

I'm also his line manager – the organisation we both work for is supporting him in gaining a professional qualification – so we have lots of day-to-day contact about work.... In our organisation we have an established system of monthly line-management supervision....In these we look at issues of how work is progressing and plan future work together....I do try to look at issues of professional development and more general issues of support in these supervision sessions.... But, given the pressures of time ...and the need to make sure that we deliver what we say we'll deliver...well, if I'm honest, line-management issues tend to dominate.

So...we have decided to deal with this by setting up specific sessions of professional supervision, in addition to our line-management sessions....though this obviously has time implications for both of us! ...These are regular sessions – we have managed to schedule them bi-monthly and the business is entirely focused on Jay's learning and professional development on his Foundation Degree.

I think it's important that we make this commitment to time and space for Jay.... He has said that he finds it really useful, helping him to stand back and think about his workand why he's doing it, and linking this to theories he's encountering in his academic work and reading.