LESSONS LEARNED: INCREASING PRODUCTIVITY

Using insights from occupational psychology, businesses can boost productivity without sacrificing staff wellbeing. Read on to find out how.

1 SCHEDULE YOUR DAY

We often work best when in uninterrupted **Focus Time**. Scheduling blocks of time for this **Deep Work** enables important tasks to get done, while keeping diary space for meetings, messaging, and social time.

Social time

Meetings & messaging

Focus Time

Instead of a bitty day like this, interrupted by meetings and messaging...



...try chunking blocks together, with Focus Time periods for Deep Work

9:00 Lunch 17:30

EAT THE FROG

2



Identify the hardest task of the day (i.e., eating the frog), and do it first. This can be a great way to make sure the important things get done, and avoid getting bogged down in procrastination.

REDUCE DISTRACTIONS

3

Digital distractions (including those related to our work) require the brain to constantly shift tasks, and cause us to become inefficient. Avoid trying to multi-task during Focus Time, and close messaging apps entirely.

4 DIGITAL TOOLS

Digital tools can be useful for setting and tracking goals, and coordinating with colleagues. But sometimes we need to put them down in order to eat the frog!

To-Do apps

AI tools

Meeting schedulers

Shared calendars



Meetings can be an important part of our work, but can also be optimised. Consider:

Do all invitees need to be present?

Can the meeting be shortened?

How often are meetings needed?

...and always use an agenda!

Want help improving your productivity?

Join our research study on wellbeing and work, at the University of Sussex!



Research-based advice and training in maximising productivity



Data on staff wellbeing and performance in a custom report



£100 reimbursement for research participants



A picture of your own MRI brain scan! (optional)

For more information, contact Dr Charlotte Rae: c.rae@sussex.ac.uk

Or complete this short form:

