Getting Started with Engagement Scoring in Slate

Start with a small rubric, a repeatable process, and a validation check before expanding an engagement-scoring project.

Define the first version

Identify the decision the score should support and the behaviors already available in your data. Keep the first version small enough to explain to the team and revise after testing.

Document the behaviors, weights, caps, and interpretation of the total. Decide what staff should do differently when they see the result.

Make the process repeatable

Map a Slate query and import process that can calculate or refresh the score using the data and permissions available in your instance. Confirm the setup with the people responsible for your Slate configuration.

Store and present results in a form staff can understand. Test the process on an appropriate sample before relying on regular updates.

Validate before expanding

Compare the score with historical outcomes and examine unexpected results. Check that it behaves like a useful signal rather than a measure of student worth or a guaranteed prediction.

Refine the rubric with staff input. Expand the build only when the first version is understandable, useful, and maintainable.

Questions for the team

What data do we already have? Which behaviors deserve attention? What will the score help us decide? Who will maintain the calculation? How will we know whether the result is useful?

Keep a record of assumptions and changes so the next version can be evaluated against the same purpose.