



PEAL e-Bulletin - June 2008

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1a. PEAL Training Opportunities

PEAL is now available to 'buy in' and is not just limited to England, as it has been in the past. Three options are available:

1. PEAL training: one day's preparation and one facilitated training day - one trainer

A PEAL training event for up to 20 participants.

2. Two days training and consultancy - facilitated by two trainers

A two-day event for up to 20 participants in which a local authority team has the opportunity to become familiar with the PEAL model and materials. This will enable planning for a strategic approach to the dissemination of PEAL.

3. Two days training for PEAL trainers - facilitated by two trainers

A two-day event for experienced trainers in a trainer/development role, who have already attended PEAL training, and wish to deliver PEAL to a local authority or region. (Local authorities might wish to combine for this option).

If you have alternative requirements other than those listed, then please get in touch with a member of the PEAL team, as they may be able to tailor training to your needs.

For availability and costs, please contact Heather Goodwin at hgoodwin@ncb.org.uk or call 020 7843 6100.

1b. Phase 2 Success

Phase 2 of the PEAL roll-out commenced in April 2007 and was completed at the end of March 2008. During this time, the training was delivered to practitioners based in children's centres (as in phase 1) as well as reaching a wider audience

including those from the private voluntary and independent sector, childminders and early years advisors from local authorities.

There were over 100 events, some regional with up to 120 participants and some more locally based, in church halls for example. We were able to do this owing to the partnerships we formed with the National Childminding Association (NCMA), National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA) and the Pre-School Learning Alliance (PLA) and each of these organisations had their own target audience to reach.

In November, PEAL announced the achievement of a national qualifications route. The PEAL team developed an option unit 'Work to engage parents in their children's early learning', to form part of a unit in the City and Guilds 'Working with Parents' award. Over 150 people showed an initial interest and the first group of people have gone through this process now, gaining the qualification.

1c. Development Fund

Settings who had participated in the PEAL phase one (2006/07) training, were able to apply to a development fund for up to £2,000 of support. This enabled them to try a new parent partnership project, which they would otherwise not be able to run. The response was overwhelming, with settings chosen against criteria and submitted reports that are currently being made into practice examples to accompany the PEAL training resource boxes.

1d. Early Learning Partnerships Conference

PEAL was funded under the 'Early Learning Partnerships Programme' (ELPP) by the DCSF. This was split into three parts; ELPP1 was focused on demonstration projects, ELPP2 was the evaluation of these projects and the third strand was workforce development. PEAL was involved in Strand 1 (coordinated by the Family and Parenting Institute) and was the lead partner for the Strand 3.

A conference was held on June 25 2008 in London where the results of a full evaluation of the ELPP1 were revealed. This event was highly recommended for local authority Early Years Leads, National Strategies Foundation Advisers, Commissioners of parenting and children's services, Directors of Children's Services, Children's Services Advisers, Government Office Parenting Leads, Family Learning Leads and those in the voluntary sector who are involved with this area of work.

PEAL ran two workshops at the conference. The first was run by Keith Phillips, Associate Lead Trainer for PEAL, and Gill Haynes who led on the accreditation for the PEAL unit that can lead to the 'Working with Parents' City and Guilds award at Level 3. The workshop provided an insight into the accreditation for PEAL, as well as highlighting the importance of linking qualification attainment with improvement in practice.

The second workshop was run by Kim Bevan, Associate Trainer for PEAL, and Heather Goodwin, Admin and Training Coordinator for PEAL. This workshop provided an introduction and brief look at the history of PEAL. Both workshops were well attended and received.

A copy of the ELP1 evaluation will be available on the PEAL website shortly.

1e. PEAL Developments

A number of developments are being undertaken to include extending PEAL over two days delivery, adapting the training for Reception classes, reaching groups that were under-represented at the training events, creating resources for parents and including facilitation skills for Local Authority training for trainers.

2. SCORGS

2a. Barnardos High/Scope Initiative

“Engaging Parents in their Young Children’s Learning”

It doesn’t seem that long ago we were thinking, ‘where are the gaps within our workforce who work with under 3’s and their families?’ and now we have written and delivered two 10 day courses to not only Barnardos Support staff but also external agencies, some participants travelling from Leeds and Scotland.

Engaging Parents in their Young Children’s Learning trains practitioners to look at ways to encourage parents to engage with their children. The course covers brain development, child development, learning styles, group dynamics, working in 1-1 and group situations. We also look at linking these to Government Legislation - *Every Child Matters*, *Early Years Foundation Stage* and the *National Occupational Standards for Work with Parents*.

Some comments from participants have included:

“Through shared ownership I have found parents remain engaged for longer.”

“Better, stronger relationships built because of better understanding.”

“High/scope has had a huge impact on my practice from learning that a simple table cloth can change the whole look and feel of a room to the importance of attachment and bonding to understanding how I put theories into my every day practice. By gaining this knowledge my job has expanded as my confidence has grown so I really feel I have a lot more to offer parents/carers and children.”

Both courses have been oversubscribed and all participants have completed, which is not only pleasing, but confirms there is a need for this area of training. Our team can see the benefits that this strand of ELPP3 has had and it has definitely benefited the workforce, we would like to thank the Early Learning Partnership Project for making this possible.

We look forward to running this course again later in the year.

For more information on “Engaging Parents in their Young Children’s Learning” please call Margaret Beech on 0191 2304194

3. Conferences

3a. The Childcare & Nursery Show

Bournemouth International Centre 8th-9th July 2008 (10am-4pm)

The Childcare & Nursery Show is a dynamic market place, learning zone and forum for its industry. Designed to inspire, entice, stimulate and inform all nursery operators, managers, nursery chain executives and professional child-carers. The Childcare & Nursery Show is the nursery industry's only event - providing unrivalled opportunities for visitors to source and experience the very best in day nursery and childcare sector products and services. The show is dedicated to bringing you the very best in new products, ideas, equipment and advice: delivering first-class industry insights and information to everyone in the childcare business.

For more info visit www.nurseryshow.co.uk

t: 01425 470666 f: 01425 470678 e: emma@nurseryshow.co.uk

3.b. Mummy's Black, Daddy's Yellow and I'm Orange: talking with young children about racial identity

Thursday 9 October 2008. Manchester

Patrice Lawrence, Lead on Equality in the ECU, has developed a new training course that aims to give practitioners confidence and the tools for talking with young children about skin colour and racial identity.

Contact: Natalie Naraine, 020 7843 6084, nnaraine@ncb.org.uk

3.c. Extending Inclusion

Tuesday 21 October 2008, London

A free one day national conference which should be of interest to all staff involved in the strategic operational planning, development and delivery of extended services and in the work of children's centres.

To book a place or for further information, please email conferences@ncb.org.uk or call 020 7843 6441

We want your feedback and ideas! Please direct any comments or queries to: Heather Goodwin, Admin & Training Coordinator, PEAL Project - hgoodwin@ncb.org.uk

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