



PEAL e-bulletin - July 2010

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1. PEAL News

1a. PEAL in Your Setting - a New Way to Train

PEAL can now offer a new, more affordable way to arrange PEAL training for staff at your setting or from a small cluster of local settings. This is aimed at groups of practitioners who are based in or working with children's centers, and who may find it difficult to access Local authority-arranged PEAL training, or NCB open courses.

A PEAL trainer works at the setting within a series of half-days or a full day to look at the PEAL model and develop practical projects. As with standard PEAL training participants can get their learning accredited at Level 3; additional half days can be arranged to support project development and assessment.

The cost of PEAL in your setting is £500 per half-day or £900 per day. This training option is suitable for 8 - 20 participants and includes 2 PEAL resource packs for use in the setting/s.

Please contact [Heather Goodwin](#) or call 020 7843 6100 for further information or to book your tailored course.

1b. PEAL Training Opportunities

PEAL is available to buy in to Local Authorities. There are several options available from standard 1 day PEAL training that enables participants to get the training accredited at Level 3 (a single unit of the whole award), to a two-day strategic option. Further information about the available options can be found on the PEAL website, under the training section.

PEAL (Parents, Early Years and Learning) and the early home learning environment - PEAL aims to meet the needs of those who work with practitioners in a variety of roles including family support workers and health visitors as well as setting and home based practitioners. PEAL is also suitable for those working in nursery schools and reception classes.

1c. *Special Feature* - Sharing PEAL with parents

Sharing PEAL with parents is a new PEAL resource to support practitioners who wish to begin conversations with small groups of parents about how important they are in their children's early learning and development. It provides three outline plans for facilitated group sessions - to build parents' confidence and awareness and to encourage regular sharing of observations and information between parents and practitioners. The material has now been successfully piloted in three early years settings, and will be available from September.

Parents on the pilot sessions fed back that they had appreciated the time to talk in a small group with practitioners and other parents. They really enjoyed thinking more deeply about their children, especially taking photographs of them to discuss. They had realised some new things - for instance, that learning for children happens all the time, and from very simple tasks like shopping and playing in the garden. Parents also said they were doing more things with their children as a result of the sessions - these included not worrying so much about them getting messy as they played, involving them in cooking and gardening more, and playing together on swings and trampolines.

Further details will appear on the [PEAL website](#) shortly.

2. PEAL Developments

2a. How has PEAL training helped your practice?

Have you made any changes to your practice/your setting's practice since attending PEAL training? Have you introduced a new project or started working in a different way with parents? Have you noticed the impact on parents' confidence and involvement in their children's learning, and/or on children's progress? We are gathering stories to help us build up a picture of the impact of PEAL. If you have stories to share with us, please contact [Helen Wheeler](#) or call 020 7843 6101.

3. Early Childhood Unit News

3a. Launch of Principles for Engaging with Families

The Principles for Engaging with Families was launched at the National Quality Improvement Network conference, 'Ask the Family' on 22 June 2010. It has been written by the Early Learning Partnership Parental Engagement Group on behalf of the network. This A4 booklet provides a framework for supporting local authorities and national organisations to effectively engage with parents and families. The guide focuses on 10 principles and offers guidance and case studies, as well as points for reflection and a resource section.

It can be downloaded from the NCB website -

http://www.ncb.org.uk/PDF/IMQUFAMI_4thproof.pdf. To order hard copies, please contact [Daisy Hirst](#) or call 020 7843 6064. The booklet costs £8 including p & p, with discounts available for large orders.

Speaker presentations from the NQIN conference, including from Margy Whalley and Prof. Kathy Sylva, can be downloaded from the NCB website.

http://www.ncb.org.uk/resources/conferences_and_events/nqin.aspx

3b. Families Going Forward

ECU has been working with NCB's Training Unit to deliver a new training course to Children's Centre Outreach Workers. The *Families Going Forward* training was developed by the CWDC and NCB are delighted to have been contracted to deliver this in five of the nine government regions - North East, North West, West Midlands, East of England and South West. Bookings have flooded in since the application process started and some courses are already fully booked.

The training is free to eligible participants and consists of 5 days training.

Participants are then given the opportunity to work towards gaining Unit 300 of the City and Guilds Work with Parents Award (Build and Maintain Relationships with Parents). This, along with the accredited training offered by PEAL, will give candidates 9 of the 12 credits needed to complete the full Work with Parents Award.

For further information on the Families Going Forward training, including eligibility criteria, please visit

http://www.ncb.org.uk/resources/training/families_going_forward.aspx.

For further information regarding accreditation, please contact [Heather Goodwin](#) or call 020 7843 6100.

3c. YCVN National Networking Event

YCVN (Young Children's Voices Network) hosted its latest national networking event on the 15th of June in partnership with Leeds City Council. The event brought together a mix of professionals

all with an interest in participation and listening to young children.

Practitioners from Early Years Services in Leeds City Council shared examples of their practice with great enthusiasm; and there were also presentations from Felicity Mallam of UNICEF and Sandra Green of Buckinghamshire County Council, about the Early Years Rights Respecting Schools Award. For further information please visit

<http://www.rightsrespectingschools.org.uk>.

3d. Launch of Let's Listen

'Let's listen, Young Children's Voices - profiling and planning to enable their participation in children's services'

On 22 April YCVN launched a new resource to support early years settings and LAs to evidence and plan listening to young children and enabling young children's participation in children's services. Over 60 guests from all over the country attended the celebratory event which included presentations from Dr Cathy Hamer who developed 'Let's listen', and colleagues from Hertfordshire County Council who shared findings from their young children's consultation project which explored 3 and 4 year olds' experiences of the Flexible Free Entitlement.

For further information, please visit www.ncb.org.uk/ycvn.

4. Conferences and Training

TRAINING

4a. Involving Disabled Children in Planning and Reviews

05 October 2010

London

This course will help participants understand the different ways in which disabled children communicate, and to develop strategies for ensuring the involvement of disabled children in every aspect of their lives. It is designed for managers and practitioners in all sectors - education, early years, social services and health - who are working to develop a framework to ensure that all disabled children are included in services.

Cost: From £241

Contact NCB: 020 7843 6084 training@ncb.org.uk

4b. Developing Mentoring Practice in Early Years and Playwork

14 October 2010

Birmingham

This training course aims to raise the quality of mentoring in the early years and play sector by increasing knowledge of the theory that underpins mentoring and developing the skills involved.

It will provide essential guidance as mentoring skills become a key tool for managers and local authority officers who aim to support early years and play settings to improve their practice through reflection, learning and action.

Cost: From £241.50

Contact NCB: 020 7843 6084 training@ncb.org.uk

4c. Wellbeing from Birth

October 22, 2010

London

This course is designed to underpin quality provision for children's wellbeing, especially in relation to personal, social and emotional development, and communication and language. The course offers evidence-based strategies which aim to support life-long wellbeing and resilience by transforming the situations and experiences of babies and young children in their everyday lives.

Cost: £241.50-£316.25

Contact NCB: 0207 843 6084 training@ncb.org.uk

4d. Children in Wales: Supporting Fathers' Groups in Early Years

Thu, 23 September, 09:30 - Fri, 24 September, 10:30

Newton Abbot and District children's Centre

Old School Lane Centre, Llandudno

A two-day course facilitated by Fatherskills Building on the theory developed in An Introduction to Working with Fathers, the course is aimed at organisations and practitioners working in Early Years settings. It provides a toolkit to help create and sustain a 12-week programme for a father's group. The course is based on interactive learning and how to translate this into working with fathers.

Cost: Members £195 Non-Members £235

Website: www.childreninwales.org.uk/13018.html

4e. ICAN: Resources and strategies for working with parents

The full day training course can be delivered at a venue of your choice, all costs for the venue and expenses are additional

The package is designed to help and support early years practitioners working with parents to increase parents' understanding of and involvement in their child's communication development.

Cost: £1,700 + VAT for a full day for 25 delegates.

Contact: training@ican.org.uk

CONFERENCES

4f. National Literacy Trust: Talk to your Baby Project Smile, Talk and Listen: doing our best for babies

18th October 2010

Westminster

Cost: £200

Contact: shawna.spoor@literacytrust.org.uk , 020 7820 6265

4g. Early Years Educator: How children learn: traditional and contemporary theories

23rd and 24th September 2010 (Two day conference)

London

Cost: £323.13 (for one day)

Website: www.earlyyearseducator.co.uk/cgi-bin/go.pl/events/index.html

4h. The EYFS Two Years On: Planning For The Unique Child

29th September 2010

London

Taking Observations Forward & Supporting Child-Centred Learning Journeys Whilst Meeting Ofsted & Welfare Requirements

Cost: £599 + VAT (£703.83)

Contact: alice.hilton@haymarket.com, 0208 267 4587

4i. Neil Stewart Associates Sure Start 8th Annual Conference 2010

Tuesday 21st September 2010

London

Cost: £599.00 + VAT

Contact: suzannah.povey@neilstewartassociates.co.uk, 020 7324 4330,

We want your feedback and ideas! Please direct any comments or queries to: [Heather Goodwin](#), Practice Development Admin Coordinator.

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