



PEAL e-Bulletin - March 2009

1. PEAL News:

- 1a. PEAL Training Opportunities
- 1b. PEAL Book Launch

2. PEAL Developments

- 2a. PEAL and Listening to Young Children
- 2b. PEAL and Quality Improvement

3. Conferences

- 3a. NQIN Conference
- 3b. Early Years Conference 2009
- 3c. Give Your Two-Year-Olds The Best Start In Life
- 3d. Advance Beyond Target Chasing & Strategically Measure Impacts & Outcomes
- 3e. Early Years Foundation Stage - One Year On

1a. 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 facilitation skills for trainers that would like to deliver PEAL within their own Local Authority. Further information about the available options can be found on the PEAL website, under the training section.

There are also some individual places available through the NCB training department. These places are very limited and fill up quickly. Sessions will be run in London on 16th October 2009 and in Nottingham on 9th March 2010. Please visit

http://www.ncb.org.uk/Page.asp?originx_5596lh_9680312142481b19k_2008815150n for further details.

1b. PEAL Book Launch



The Early Childhood Unit was delighted to welcome Michael Rosen, author and Children's Laureate, to speak at the launch of the new PEAL book - 'Parents as Partners in the Early Years Foundation Stage'.

The celebration took place at Thomas Coram Children's Centre in Camden on Monday 9th March. Michael welcomed the book and the work of PEAL training in helping to build parents' confidence as educators of their own children. Getting to know parents, including them and encouraging them to contribute their own knowledge and skills to the work of the nursery and classroom brings real benefits to children, parents and teachers alike. He particularly emphasized the critical importance of supporting parents' to share quality picture story books with very young children, such as Maurice Sendak's 'Where the Wild Things Are', which invites children to think deeply - to reason, speculate, and wonder.

Sue Steel and Chris Cheshire, who have completed PEAL training and accreditation, also spoke with real passion about the changes they have been inspired to make in their work with parents. Working with parents successfully means talking less about hard-to-reach parents and thinking more about how to make services less hard-to-access. It's important to find a range of ways to involve all parents. Building relationships and talking to parents more regularly enables a practitioner to find out more about an individual child, and tailor appropriate help and support to their educational and developmental needs.

Parents as Partners in the Early Years Foundation Stage is published by the National Children's Bureau.

ISBN: 9781905818433. £13.80 NCB members/£16 non-members.

To order a copy call 0845 458 9910, e-mail ncb@centralbooks.com or go to www.ncb.org.uk/books.

2. PEAL Developments

2a. PEAL and Listening to Young Children

Listening & Peal - Option 1 for Practitioners

The *Listening as a way of life - An Introduction* course aims to inspire and enable practitioners to listen to young children and involve them in decisions which affect their lives, through every day practice.

By the end of the day participants will be able to:

- To understand the benefits of listening for children, practitioners, parents and early years services
- To identify challenges to listening and ways of overcoming these
- To explore the different 'languages' through which children communicate and ways in which they can help children to express their ideas, feelings and preferences
- To reflect on their current practice and plan how to develop children's involvement in the design, development and delivery of early years services

Each one day session costs £2,250 for up to 24 participants (excluding venue and catering costs which are arranged by the local authority/organisation.) For further details, please contact Lucy Williams: lwilliams@ncb.org.uk or call 0207 833 6816.

Listening & PEAL - Option 2 for Advisers/ Managers

The *Embedding listening within the Early Years* course aims to inspire advisers, managers and those in strategic roles to support practitioners in listening to young children and involving them in decisions which affect their lives, through everyday practice. This course also explores the links between listening to young children and other related practice, such as the involvement of parents as partners in their children's learning, and creating a broader listening culture as part of quality improvement. The course includes resources for cascading training.

By the end of the day participants will be able to:

- identify the importance of listening as part of everyday practice
- examine the concept of a listening culture, and the skills required to support its development
- identify their own values and principles and see how these relate to development of practice within settings
- explore their own skills and knowledge and identify areas for development
- gain knowledge of the policy context and research that underpins listening to young children
- gain confidence in dealing with challenges
- recognise opportunities for, and barriers to, embedding listening within the early years
- identify the support, changes and actions needed in order to take the work forward.

Each one day session costs £2,500 for up to 20 participants (excluding venue and catering costs which are arranged by the local authority/organisation.) For further details, please contact Lucy Williams: lwilliams@ncb.org.uk or call 0207 833 6816.

2b. PEAL and Quality Improvement

Mentor Training - Inspiring your team's development

The *Developing mentor practice in early years and playwork* course aims to raise the quality of the mentoring role in the Early Years and Play sectors by increasing participants' knowledge of the underpinning theory of mentoring and developing the skills involved.

By the end of the day participants will be able to:

- describe the role of a mentor and the links to other roles undertaken
- describe the key elements of underpinning theory
- identify key values, and principles involved in effective mentoring and the

- link to early years and play principles and practice
- demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between mentoring theory, personal experience and practice
- identify their own strengths and areas for development in mentoring skills
- identify some of the main problems that mentors face and describe some of the solutions
- use a range of tools to deal with common problems that arise.

Each one day session costs £2,500 for up to 20 participants (excluding venue and catering costs which are arranged by the local authority/organisation.) For further details, please contact Heather Ransom: hransom@ncb.org.uk or call 020 7843 6078.

3. Training & Conferences

3a. NQIN Conference

12 May 2009, Birmingham

National Quality Improvement Network's annual conference exploring quality improvement supporting children's well-being, giving practitioners and policy makers the opportunity to increase their knowledge base and exchange best practice. Presented by NCB.

http://www.ncb.org.uk/Page.asp?originx_8420jr_5795746448048r52t_20092243624c

3b. Early Years Conference 2009

Friday 3 July 2009, Lincoln

If you work in the Early Years Foundation Stage or Key Stage 1, are interested in developing your practice and provision and want to find out about different educational philosophies, this conference will be relevant to you. The conference will involve three practical workshops led by experts in HighScope, Montessori and Steiner Education and will be followed by a discussion, led by successful early years leaders on how to put your philosophy in practice. The conference will enable participants to undertake the MA module PPD103 Early Years Education. Presented by Bishop Grosseteste University College Lincoln.

<http://www.bishopg.ac.uk/docs/EDS/Early%20Childhood%20Conference%20flyer.pdf>

3c. Give Your Two-Year-Olds The Best Start In Life

8 July 2009, Birmingham

Boost the future outcomes of this 'In-Between' age group by setting realistic expectations and supporting behaviours throughout this crucial Development phase. Presented by Nursery World.

www.workingwithtwoyearolds.com

3d. Advance Beyond Target Chasing & Strategically Measure Impacts & Outcomes

9 July 2009, Birmingham

Working In Partnership To Embed Measurement Into Your Service And Effectively Evaluate The Impact Your Work Has On Children & Young People's Lives. Presented by Children and Young People Now.

www.measuringoutcomes.co.uk

3e. Early Years Foundation Stage - One Year On

Updates And Reflection On The Implementation Of The EYFS - One Year On

30 September 2009, Birmingham

Following 4 sell-out conferences *Nursery World* brings you insight into how the EYFS is working in practice so far.

Ensure you are confident and up to date in the delivery of the EYFS framework, share experiences and best-practice with your peers to move forward with the EYFS to improve outcomes for children in your community across all settings. Presented by Nursery World.

<http://www.haymarketevents.com/conferenceDetail/369/early-years-foundation-stage-one-year->

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

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