

FL Practitioners' Forum – 4<sup>th</sup> February 2010

Questions to Richard Jarrald, City College Norwich:

**Q. What are the costs for Schools to send learners to CCN for the Step-UP Programme?**

A. The cost by the hour, per student, is £5.50. This has been worked out by analysing the money allocated by the local authority

**Q. You mentioned that you are going to be using Second Life, what platform are you using?**

A. We will be using Teen Island; CCN already has a presence there. We will be setting up a parliament but not using it yet. This will be appealing to different groups of students.

Open Opportunity have already trialled Second Life. It will allow us to create a forum that all students can feed into. Hopefully it will encourage debate, allow users to interact with other learners from different backgrounds, challenge and provide opportunities. With online advisors from CCN it would provide security and be the first step for many learners on their communication journey.

**Q. How long has it taken you to develop?**

A. We were working on Second Life for 6 months and have been working on Teen Island for 6 months.

**Q. Will you allow other institutions to view you on Second Life?**

A. That's where we are heading.

Questions to Imani Sorhaindo, Community Learning and Skills Development:

**Q. From another adult community learning provider, we have been tasked with putting 720 learners' thorough functional skills. Will you come and visit us?**

A. Yes and we will bring you some of our materials.

**Q. How do you think Functional Skills compares to Skills for Life? Which would you choose?**

A. I would choose Functional Skills as I feel that it equips learners with more work related skills.

**Q. You said that you were using a VLE as a medium of communication? Is that because you are working over a vast number of sites?**

A. Yes, because of location issues.

Questions to Phil Farrell, OCN Eastern Region:

**Q. Does the inclusion of Level 2 units in Step-UP mean we will be getting a Level 2 Step-UP Qualification?**

A. Not at the moment. Step-UP Qualifications were piloted as Foundation Learning as part of the test and trials as Entry Level and Level 1 Qualifications. The feedback from Schools was that they would welcome Step-UP at Level 2. We would like to develop a Level 2 Step-UP; however there are questions as to where it would fit. It would either have to be as ASL or as a Stand Alone Qualification (which QCDA are trying to reduce the number of).

However, we do have a new Qualification - Developing Skills for Employment a Level 2 Award or Certificate which carries performance points.

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