



Hampshire & Isle of Wight  
Lifelong Learning Network

## EARLY YEARS STAFF DEVELOPMENT EVENT

30 April 2009

Macdonald Botley Park Hotel, Golf & Country Club, Botley, Southampton SO32 2UA

### Summary notes

Twenty five people attended this second Early Years Staff Development Event organised and hosted by the HI-LLN Childhood, Youth and Community Studies Curriculum Group. Eight colleges, four universities, 1 private training provider and two local authorities were represented.

Themes for the event were:

- EYPS Pathways including local provision and an EYP's view
- Getting to Grips with the Role of the EYP
- The Early Years Workforce Qualifications Index

Colleagues from the Universities of Winchester and Portsmouth gave an overview of the four EYPS pathways available. Cathy Coles, an EYP, talked passionately about her experience of completing the EYPS long pathway, the enormous benefit to herself, the knock on effect on other staff in her setting and to introducing exciting new practices.

Liz Brownhill from the Childrens' and Young People's Directorate of the IoW Council gave an overview of the Early Years and Childcare 10 Year Strategy and summarised progress made towards targets at this, the halfway point. Liz then facilitated lively small group discussion focussed on the EYP role.

The event was rounded up by a very informative and clear tour through the New Qualifications Database given by Debbie Simmons of the Early Education and Childcare Unit, Hampshire County Council. From September 09 the database, which is being introduced by the Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC), allows settings, local authorities and Ofsted to check if current qualifications held by staff meet the seven criteria stipulated by CWDC for 'valid' qualifications. Guidance is supplied by the database when additional training / qualifications are required in order for staff to meet the required qualification standard.

Feedback from the event was extremely positive. 18 feedback forms were returned from the 25 handed out. 94% of participants stated that the event met their expectations very well. The most useful parts of the event were stated to be; the content and balance of the programme, the opportunity to share / discuss ideas with colleagues and general networking. The venue was warmly received by all!

Presentations and a summary of points from the group discussion on the EYP role are available from the HI-LLN website and from Helen Briers. [helen.briers@winchester.ac.uk](mailto:helen.briers@winchester.ac.uk)

*Helen Briers  
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