

Final Summative Journal

Summary of key improvements from my on-course development plans:

As I have moved through the course I have set varied action plans that I have acted upon to make improvements to my teaching. This has included:

- Making changes to the layout of the classroom depending on the evaluations and trials I have done.
- Making better use of contacts and sending out messages to old contacts to maintain networks for the future.
- Begun to make a more concrete CPPD log as I was always improving myself but never recording it.
- Better and more thorough evaluations meant that I could make faster changes to improve the lessons.

Summary of what I have learned from the C/DTLLS course:

I underestimated how in-depth the DTLLS course would be. Having studied PTLLS and working as a Tutor for 3 years I thought I might know all the answers and that DTLLS was the confirmation of a qualification that I need. In actual fact DTLLS has changed my entire life both in and outside of the work place. Examples of what I learnt include:

- Deeper understanding of the psychology of the learner
- Classroom management skills in more depth
- Widened my view of other places of practice and pushed me to get work experience in other places including a school.
- Made me aware of national standards and legislation compared to what I practice in my workplace.
- How to manage stress levels better and better see things from both sides before I make decisions.
- How to adapt and be better prepared under more difficult situations.
- Helped me manage my home/work life better (although at times it hasn't felt like it!)
- One of the most important parts of the course for me was the contact days. The days started off with what the content was about but as I got to observe the tutor I realised that she was an expert in the field. I was able to observe her and apply some of the skills she used with us on my own students.

What impact has this learning had on my own 'expert learner' skills?

DTLLS has been a huge responsibility to take on while working full time, getting married and working on private projects.

At times I have let things slip due to life pressures or commitments but as part of my expert learner skills I have had to adapt, make sacrifices and manage my time better and commit to negotiated deadlines.

I have also learnt to better critically analyse the way I work and also apply this to the assignments. The projects have also pushed me to conduct a wide range of research that has helped guide me through the assignments.

After many years of study (university being the last place) it has made me go back to the drawing board and consider and apply theory to my practice.

What impact has this learning had on my own learners?

Although I completed the DTLLS course for my own CPPD ultimately it is for the good of any learner I teach. The impact on the learners was almost instant. Retrospectively when I look at what I was doing I think the lessons were getting a bit stale. New skills have been followed with improved confidence and this in turn has meant I have made change to the courses that work more efficiently and smoother for the learner and myself. I have also been equipped with better skills so I can adapt and create new accredited courses. I have had success in promoting the expert learner and I am seeing and improved focus from the learners. Behaviour has also improved in general apart from the very extreme mental health cases; I have learnt that this is just part of the job.