

'A People-Centred Approach for the Integration of Skills for Life within Your Organisation'

Sara Whalley
Network Consultant
Director of Inspire2learn Training & Consultancy



GCSE Results

Drama (C)
Sociology (C)

English (D)
Science (D)
Maths (E)
Pottery (E)
Geography (F)

"Failure is only the opportunity to more intelligently begin again"

Henry Ford

Situation

- Stats: 23% of the workforce have SfL needs/gaps
- SfL courses for 23% workforce = costly
- Off-the-job courses Is this the most effective learning method for <u>all</u>?

Let's Think Differently

- Cost effective methods of skills development
- Systems to support development of skills within the organisation
- Staff understanding of the development of skills and impact on the workplace
- Organisation promoting access to a range of learning opportunities (on and off job)

1. A Clear Vision

Vision without action is a daydream. Action without vision is a nightmare.

Japanese Proverb

Vision for SfL in the Workplace:

- Everyone is committed to the development of skills and confident to talk about it
- Everyone is aware of their learning style and how this impacts upon their learning and that of others
- Skills development is considered through existing systems such as performance management, appraisal, induction, recruitment/selection

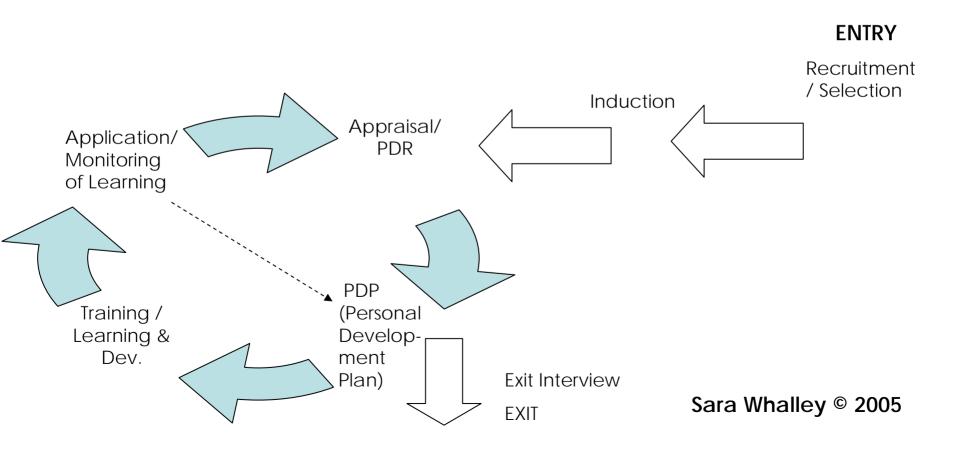
- In house expertise to support employees on-the-job with their skills
- Organisation works in partnership with educational providers to deliver purposeful training for some staff
- Organisation is aware of and promotes other avenues of learning, e.g. independent study on-line

2. A People-Centred Model

SfL is all about investment in people. When planning an approach for integration, let's start with people.

Employee - Entry to Exit model

CONSIDERING ACCESS TO LEARNING AND SKILLS FOR LIFE AT EVERY STAGE



What next?

"I know a lot of people without brains who do an awful lot of talking"

The Scarecrow, Wizard of Oz

3. Thinky-do, Thinky-do

"I can give you a six-word formula for success: Think things through, then follow through"

Captain Edward V. Rickenbacker

Key action points

- Follow circular model, create SfL Action Plan
- Senior Management buy
- SfL built into existing policies, plans, systems inc. induction, appraisal, PDR
- SfL Toolkit /support documents for managers/appraisers
- Front-line manager/trainer training
- SfL embedded within existing training packages
- Partnership with education providers
- Monitoring/evaluation procedures

4. Again, think - 'people'

Strategies must:

- Get people at all levels talking about skills and learning at work generally
- Motivate people to get involved
- Inspire innovation and ownership
- Encourage and reward achievement

Organisations working with the people-centred model

- Lewes Prison
- Colleges (Agricultural, 6th Form, FE, Special)
- NHS Trusts (East Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust pioneered many of the approaches discussed via Brain Food SEEDA project)

A model for all organisations?

The same basic principles:

- Start with people
- Examine the journey of your staff throughout their employment
- Attach access to learning/SfL to every stage of their journey

Does Skills for Life sell shoes?



The Network CSET, County South, Lancaster University, Lancaster LA1 4YD

Tel: 01524 593405 Fax: 01524 844788

www.thenetwork.co.uk

