PRD project - case study

Building effective practice in partnership working to support young adults (18- 24) to progress to employment, including apprenticeships

Project title – Building Family Futures

Worth reading if you are interested in:

Family Learning

Contact information

Main contact: Denise Bollands

Name of Peer Review and Development (PRD) group:

Durham Tyne Tees Peer Review and Development Group

Participating organisation(s):

North Tyneside Learning Alliance, Redcar and Cleveland Adult Learning Service, Hartlepool Adult Education and Darlington Learning and Skills

What the PRD group set out to do and why

To research successful engagement activities with fathers, mothers and families 18 – 24 age groups who are NEET. To investigate and produce recommendations and strategies to develop new partnerships and identify any gaps in provision with local agencies, employers and stakeholders to develop sustainable progression routes from Family Learning activities into further learning and apprenticeships.

What has been achieved so far

NEET parent partnership networks have been identified – Hartlepool held a NEET parent partnership meeting that was well attended by professionals from both the local authority and other service providers. Activities involved identifying gaps in provision and possible progression routes. It was agreed that this partnership will continue and NEET families to be involved in planning and progression. Hartlepool Adult Education will take over the facilitation of this network.

Family Learning engagement activities and proposed progression routes identified – Redcar Adult Learning Service have identified progression from Family Learning which involve employability courses and Skills for Life provision, IAG will take place during Family Learning programmes to ensure that learners receive the progression information that is most appropriate to them. Partners have been identified for a NEET Parent Partnership in Redcar and Cleveland; a first meeting is still to be held.

Darlington Learning and Skills Service have identified in house progression routes that are available to NEET families. Work has been done to identify partners for a NEET parent Partnership network, a first meeting is still to be held.

Family Learning training needs identified – North Tyneside Learning Alliance felt that they already had strong links with NEET partners and that the gaps within their service could be remedied with some specialist IAG training and support for their Family Learning staff.

What still needs to be done

NEET Parent Partnership Network meetings to be held in Redcar and Darlington Specialist IAG support and training for Family Learning staff to be arranged for North Tyneside Learning Alliance

NEET Parent Partnership meetings to be continued and progression routes to be identified in Hartlepool.

Resources to be shared with the sector

PowerPoint presentation for use with NEET parent partnership meetings. Identified Progression routes from Family Learning.

Key learning points

- Family Learning is different across the PRD group areas to meet the needs of individual communities
- One standard progression pathway does not fit each service bespoke pathways need implementing using ideas and good practice from a basic model
- Services have differing priorities and arranging meetings with other services can be problematic due to time constraints
- Communication across services is not always effective and working towards a common goal can be difficult due to differing service targets.