

LSIS Leadership in Technology (LIT) grant based intervention

Case study template

<p>Provider name & contact details</p>	<p>Wirral Lifelong & Family Learning Service. Leasowe Adult & Early Years Centre. Twickenham Drive Lesowe. Wirral CH42 2QF 0151 630 5069</p>
<p>LIT Project title</p>	<p>Self Organised Learning in Digital Arts</p>
<p>Project summary :</p> <p>- Include the particular area for improvement that has been tackled through the effective deployment of technology</p>	<p>This project is about introducing creative technology to parents and children, so that they can work together in the production of a story book. The aim was to introduce the technology and help the parents begin a process whereby they can access their work remotely and complete some of the project from home.</p> <p>The project will engage hard to reach parents, children and other learners through the use of creative digital technology.</p>
<p>What were the aims of the project?</p>	<p>PROJECT AIMS AND OUTCOMES(Max 200 words):</p> <p>The project addresses a need to deliver flexible learning to hard to reach learners using technology.</p> <p>The aim is to address the lack of time and commitment some learners have regarding attend a regular class.</p> <p>The project aims to reach and encourage parents who would not engage in traditional IT courses – through promoting IT as a ‘tool’ and means to achieve a goal (producing a book with their child)</p> <p>A package and template will be produced that can used by other groups thereby creating sustainable change</p> <p>The outcome will be the development of a product (small photo book) and the chance for parents to help their children learn and learn together.</p>
<p>What did you do and how did you do this?</p> <p>What role did your mentor play on your LIT project?</p>	<p>Tutors from various disciplines (IT – Family Learning and Digital Arts) were brought together to plan their specific input into the project.</p> <p>The initial stage of the project was to design the templates for the book and upload them to the Moodle. The mentor was instrumental in helping the tutors use the moodle and create a specifically designed user area and simple access pathways for learners to use.</p> <p>This pilot enabled the project to be tried with 2 groups. Group A was recruited from the parents and children of a local primary school. Group B has been offered to a group with mental health issues.</p>

<p>What have been the key benefits from the input of your mentor?</p> <p>What was the benefit of the support that you received from your LSIS Associate?</p>	<p>Both groups are now in the process of producing photo books. Learners are engaging in all aspects of production which include: Choosing a series of background templates. Taking photographs of their children and themselves to add to the story. Learning simple photo shop techniques. Learning how to access the project remotely – from home.</p> <p>The mentor oversaw all IT structures and provided handouts for learners to navigate around the moodle.</p> <p>The mentor also provided advice and guidance on-line to learners if they were accessing the project remotely from home.</p> <p>The LSIS Associate helped shape and focus on details we had not considered in the initial planning stage and during the project. We had a meeting in which we were able to discuss the project in detail. The associate has been flexible and available whenever we have needed advice and guidance.</p> <p>The input and support from Punam has also kept the project working to schedule and on time.</p>
<p>What has been the impact and benefit of the LIT capital grant to your project?</p> <p>What did the project cost, including LSIS funding?</p>	<p>The capital grant has enabled us to purchase a set of equipment that so the project can be delivered in outreach centres across the Wirral. This is critical to helping us achieve our aims of reaching increasingly hard to reach learners. The first 2 pilots have both been held in-house at our main centre in Leasowe. However, as awareness of the project has spread we already have plans to offer it to a group of Bengali women and their children in an inner-city primary school. Other groups are now booking the project for the summer term and into Sept 2011.</p> <p>£8000</p>
<p>What has been the impact of your LIT project on your organisational improvement strategy?</p> <p>What were the benefits of your LIT project?</p> <p>What were the savings to your organisation?</p> <p>How did you calculate them?</p>	<p>The organisational strategy included reference to developing the curriculum in ways that would appeal to non-traditional and hard to reach learners. The LIT project has been fundamental in achieving this aim.</p> <p>The strategy also refers to devising ways of reaching and engaging learners who may not be able to regularly attend ‘traditional’ courses of e.g. 2hrs a week over 10 weeks. The flexible approach and the means by which to help learners access and use the project helps us address this.</p> <p>The project has been instrumental in helping the organisation work together in a much more coherent and focused manner. The project has meant that tutors from different departments have come together (often for the first time) to enable the project to succeed.</p> <p>The project has enabled us to pilot a flexible - self-initiated delivery system for learning. We are evaluating and learning from this pilot experience in order to develop it further in the near future.</p> <p>The benefits include:</p>

	<p>Engaging new and hard to reach learners. (including male parents) Devising systems and templates that will be used continually. Encouraging tutors from different subject backgrounds to work together. Developing the IT curriculum – and promoting IT as a tool to achieve a goal. Devising a system of learning that can be accessed remotely – in the learners own time and from home. Encouraging self-initiated learning for adults and children.</p> <p>The savings will be in the longer term. Once the system has been fully implemented. The savings will start to accrue as more learners start to work from home. It is hoped that remote learning for whole groups will be the next stage in the development of the project. Talks and initial planning regarding the promotion of remote learning are currently under way</p> <p>Savings will be made as follows : £100 per course – 6 courses a year £600 per annum</p> <p>Also there will be savings in advertising and marketing as more learners are accessing materials remotely.</p>
<p>What were the lessons learned?</p> <p>What tips do you have for other providers?</p> <p>How will you disseminate effective practice to others in the sector?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Learner access to the moodle needed to be revised – learner’s were being asked to wade through too many web-pages and too many clicks are needed to navigate to the correct page. 2) Remote learning and accessing the moodle from home needs to be staged and supported with much more detail than originally planned for. 3) Short term savings are hard to quantify – as the pilot has been used to plan, devise and implement a new type of learning. The review and evaluation of the project will help us identify when and where – remote access, self initiated learning and less tutor input will be appropriate. <p>Tips: In the research we have carried out with schools and other providers it seems that people want a more creative and dynamic use of IT. Increasingly people now perceive computers as ‘tools’ that are to be used to achieve an end or goal - and to produce things. This seems the natural development from simply learning ‘about’ IT.</p> <p>Disseminate: Wirral Lifelong & Family Learning are members of the Greater Merseyside learning Partnership. Once the pilots have fully completed and been evaluated the project will be written up and disseminated to the other 6 Local Authorities in the partnership – together with examples of the work produced.</p>
<p>Provide a quote on your experience of the LSIS LIT project.</p> <p>Are you happy for us to use this and your contact details for marketing and publications?</p>	<p>The funding for this project has been invaluable in responding to a growing request from the community for IT programmes that enable people to be creative. The LSIS LIT project has helped us to address this issue and enabled tutors from different subjects come together and create a unique learning experience. Without funding for experiment and creative development the curriculum offer soon becomes stagnant and static – which obviously has an impact on learners and consequently our (Lifelong Learning’s) ability to reach the people we need to. The funding for such projects as this are critical to how organisations like ours actual function – we need the scope for more – experimental developments such as this that help keep the whole sector dynamic and appealing.</p> <p>Marketing contact - yes</p>
<p>Contact details for further information</p>	<p>Kevin Norris Wirral Lifelong & Family Learning Service. Leasowe Adult & Early Years Centre. Twickenham Drive Lesowe. Wirral CH42 2QF</p>

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