



CRITICAL SKILLS PROGRAMME Newsletter

Welcome to Issue 9 of the CSP Newsletter



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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"At last! A workable, achievable plan to accomplish the high aims of Curriculum for Excellence. So often CPD is useless or time badly spent. Three days of my SUMMER HOLIDAYS has been very wisely spent this week. Can't wait to get going and revisit/move on in February!!!"

Heather McLeod (Newhills Primary School, Aberdeen)



PHOTO OPPORTUNITY AND FEEDBACK!

We would love you to send us any stories or photos (with permissions) you have of Critical Skills in action at your school, so that we can use them for future newsletters or the website. Please send stories and photos to marie@criticalskills.co.uk

CRITICAL SKILLS COMES TO ABERDEEN

Having had the privilege of experiencing quite simply the best CPD on the planet, I was desperate that colleagues in the north-east could also be inspired and motivated by the power of the CSP model. After a great deal of gentle (and some not so gentle) persuasion, Aberdeen City Council recognized that Critical Skills provides a vehicle with which to address CfE and agreed to part fund some training. The rest was accessed from Aberdeen City Council's *Determined to Succeed* funding. On 6-8 July, the dream was realized!! 25 teachers in Aberdeen City Council gave up the first 3 days of their summer holidays to attend Level 1 part A of their training. There was a healthy mix of participants and a range of experience represented—both primary and secondary teachers, some with a management role.

By lunch break on Day 1 it was clear that the

name game, group juggle and home team challenge were helping to nurture the development of a strong community. The Essence of the Model Challenge on Day 2 provided some very interesting and thoroughly entertaining results! Our last community builder, Hippo and Dog, on Day 3 was testimony to a very successful institute!!

At the photo slide show on Wednesday, the tears were welling up as we revisited and reflected on the 3 days we had spent together. 20 hours of laughter and active learning!!

Special thanks to Juliet Presly and Mandy Allsopp - our excellent Co-ordinators; also to Christine McLennan (Development Officer for Determined to Succeed) for all the help and support.

Part B takes place in February 2010 - we can't wait!!!!

Barbara Gray (Charleston School, Aberdeen)

CRITICAL SKILLS IS ALIVE AND KICKING IN:



ENGLAND

*Barrow-in-Furness
Bexley Heath
Birmingham
Bradford
Derbyshire
East Sussex
Isle of Wight
Jersey
Leicester
Middlesbrough
North Somerset
South Shields
Stoke-on-Trent
Surrey
West Sussex
Wrexham*

SCOTLAND

*Aberdeen
East Ayrshire
North Ayrshire
East Lothian
Edinburgh
Falkirk
Kilmarnock
Lossiemouth
Midlothian
Moray
Orkney
Renfrewshire
Speyside
Stirling
West Lothian*

WALES

*Aberdare
Caerphilly
Cardiff
Cwmbran
Ebbw Vale
Merthyr
Mountain Ash
Porth
Vale of Glamorgan*

IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS CRITICAL SKILLS HAVE RAN THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND AND WALES:

- 79 LEVEL 1 PART A TRAINING EVENTS
- 63 LEVEL 1 PART B TRAINING EVENTS
- 14 LEVEL 2 TRAINING EVENTS
- 7 SENIOR LEADERSHIP TRAINING EVENTS

If you or any of your colleagues are interested in any of our Critical Skills Training Events then please contact marie@criticalskills.co.uk (England or Wales) or maria@criticalskills.co.uk (Scotland) for more information or visit our website at www.criticalskills.co.uk

APOLOGIES IF I HAVE FORGOTTEN YOU!

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DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE: www.criticalskills.co.uk