

Taking a closer Look at Community Based Adult Learning
Online session held Monday 29th August 2022



Speakers:

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Facilitators:

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25 attendees from

Aberdeenshire Council
AVA
Stonehaven's Men Shed
The Barn Arts
WEA
Lead Scotland
NESCOL

Taking a closer Look at Community Based Adult Learning: Responses and reactions to Lyn Tett Presentation



the 'small steps' idea is huge- makes such a difference to people's lives ... when they see what they can achieve and gain confidence to take more steps....



peer learning and peer support- all added and important benefits of CBAL too



agree about raising the view of CBAL - especially where there are massive funding opps like multiply!



Bring back SOCIAL CAPITAL, please???
Recognising connectedness, community cohesion, communication, etc.



Interesting that the voices not heard examples are the old and the young- what does that say about our society



we need to improve how we publicise the many benefits of CBAL. National social media/advertising campaign is a must!



A national Social Media campaign would raise the profile of CBAL and a national site like ALISS for CBAL offered by LAs and vol sector orgs would help people access information on opportunities locally available or online.

we all collectively need to promote benefits of CBAL#



Having to combat a developing view (media - professions don't pay) that the cost and return of further education is not worth it for young people. Delayed gratification not seen as a way to ensure higher earnings. We might have a growing cohort of adults returning to learning later if this continues.



Sharing this Interesting idea of community based adult learning (CBAL) for a social vaccine in post pandemic times written by Jo Foster in the Spring issue of CONCEPTs- [View of Community adult education for a social vaccine in pandemic and post pandemic times](#)



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Pretty coherent
policy map

informative and interesting,
with up-to-date research and
policy. Investment is important
to move forward effectively.

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learner voice
locally, area
wide and
nationally.....

Connections between
policy, practice and
research resonating

Totally agree - the
volunteer unpaid
CLD workforce
are key to our
impact.

that learner
quote says it all
really!

Both Lyn and Oonagh making
important connections for
us...such important aspects of
the work in the CLD sector

will learners get the
chance to be involved
again in that process
again please

lots of food for thought.
I'd be really interested in
us having a collective
media/social media
promotional campaign...
some kind of collective
working group maybe?

Is our current CBAL practice across Aberdeenshire effective?



Christmas projects - learners who maybe don't have lots of skills can get lots of value from Christmas projects. i.e. making things.

Improve transitions between services and learning opportunities.

looking for alternative learning spaces ie pubs, cafes, bookshops

establishing a Learner Forum

Family learning in partnership with libraries

meeting in person allows for more of a connection/ability to see 'how' people are.

time out for teens - family learning

Political Literacies

effective practice - Saturdays with Dads

less people = less provision

face to face offers additional benefits such as warm spaces etc.

social isolation more apparent

cant attend remotely if you don't have the IT skills and kit

pandemic highlighted social isolation and loneliness, and it became more acceptable, less stigmatised to talk about it or admit it.

Remove Stigma and promote CBAL opportunities for adult learners

Learner Voice is paramount! Finding out what the learner's aspirations, fears, needs, etc are all part of ensuring the CBAL is effective.

HMP - power tools and steps

LEAD Scotland case studies

Setting up an older people's forum

Family learning in New Pitsligo

Some good family learning, but not shared out enough with colleagues eg resources for Christmas budget accessible

Improve transitions between services and learning opportunities.

Valuing learners and hearing their voices helps improve people's self-esteem, confidence and supports learner self-directed learning.

Helping young people establish clear ways of expressing their feelings about issues such as attitudes towards autism, ableism and others to a wider public

building on IT skills - allows access to other programmes / groups / classes

IT skills / communication skills - through CBAL

Get really stuck into resources in play days. Play with the resources. Talk through. Invite partners.

SQA Problem Solving - cost of living related = Peterhead

Nature mates with libraries

CBAL in rural areas is needed

ICT has helped tackling social isolation and keeping people connected

Collaborative work with Social Work colleagues

Can we improve how we share learning records with partners to support transitions?

Pockets of effective practice in communities where good connections, but not consistent

"soft handovers" - short meetings 2 providers and learner, over a coffee

Improve transitions between services and learning opportunities.

A focused face to face training programme would be more effective than sharing remotely on sharepoint. Have a couple of "play days"

what existing mechanism, or new one, could we use to develop a collective promotional campaign on social media and in local media- can we set up a working group to do this and promote the benefits of all

May need to improve accessibility to locations e.g. working in Macduff has been difficult to find accessible locations for in person learning

Could improve on transitions between learning providers - partnership working to support these more effectively

need more focus on climate change in our work

easy entry into projects for young and old!

The learning environment is a concern as often its in schools, where many adults will have had a negative experience of learning.

Learners returning and succeeding in their learner journeys.

Volunteer role needs to be recognised for their value in learning.

Peer learning, support and connection - needs to be recognised as significant learning for individuals. (e.g. Adult Learners Forum)

Concerns around the lack of recognition of soft indicators of progress for some of our learners - Getting up, leaving the house, attending and participating.

Sometimes feel too busy doing to share and promote. Dealing with a lot of change in working practices, working smarter. Need a couple of CPD days to focus on this