



The Learning Partners Newsletter No. 3, September 2007

Welcome - Are you applying for AGQTP funding this year?

Based on my experience of recent years, I expect that the timeline for applying for Australian Government Quality Schools Programme (AGQTP) grants is likely to be published soon. Most of the 200 teachers who have completed my *Learning Partners* peer coaching skills training workshop have been able to do so because their schools successfully applied for funding under this program. Please contact me if you need more information on this five step peer coaching model to enable you to submit a successful application to implement *Learning Partners* in your school in 2008.

Why Peer Coaching?

The Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) which represents thousands of teachers around the world strongly endorses the value of peer coaching:

"Peer coaching provides job-embedded, ongoing professional support and is effective because:

- It encourages reflection and analysis of teaching practice.
- It promotes specific feedback over time.
- It fosters collaboration among teachers throughout the school building.

As a result, teachers experience positive changes in their teaching practice."

Why Learning Partners?

My goal is to establish *Learning Partners* as the best coaching workshop in Australia by refining the approach to delivering the training in response to the feedback from teachers and leaders. In most workshops participants contribute ideas that I have been able to include in subsequent sessions. This collaborative, evolutionary approach is working very well.

The four other strengths of *Learning Partners* that are most frequently commented on are:

- flexibility of the delivery of the 10 - 15 hours of training
- effective modelling of coaching
- support provided to prepare participants for guided practice and real-life coaching
- versatility: appropriate to peer, expert and leadership coaching

Some dates are still available to train teachers in Learning Partners in Term 4. December proved to be a convenient time for some last year. Also, bookings are being taken for implementing Learning Partners in 2008.

Best wishes,



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2006 Award

2nd ACEL – Microsoft Online Conference:

http://www.cybertext.net.au/accel2_06/welcome.htm

Most innovative vision of future schooling.

http://www.cybertext.net.au/accel2_06/papers/paper10_206.htm