



ST. ANTONY'S CENTRE

TRAIN TO GAIN 2007-11



Leading learning and skills

CASE STUDY PROFORMA

Before proceeding with the Case Study please ensure you have explained to the participant how the information will be used (e.g. in newsletters, on the website, in reports to funding agencies) and confirm that they are happy for the case study details to be used in this way. If they prefer, the details can be kept anonymous in which case please complete the Participant's Name box in Part B as follows: "Details withheld at participant's request".

PART A: CONTACT DETAILS

Project Name	STEP
Contract Number	NW 240 08085
Contact Name	Paul Callaghan
Position	Contracts Manager
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Date	09/06/10

PART B: PARTICIPANT CASE STUDY

Participant's Name	Michael Dransfield
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Project Overview *(Approximately 100 words)*

Provide a brief description of the project, what it is delivering, who to (target group) and where (geographic coverage).

The Skills Training Education (STEP) project provides training and support to help lower skilled employees achieve nationally recognised qualifications in literacy and numeracy (Entry Level up to Level 2). The project is open to workers across the North West who do not hold NVQ 2 and currently works with a number of companies, employers and industrial sectors in the region. Most delivery is carried out on site to encourage learner engagement, retention and achievement. In supporting Skills for Life accreditation the wider objective of the project is to promote and facilitate progress to higher level learning and qualifications.

Participant's Background and Circumstances (*Approximately 250 words*)

Give details of the participant's background and circumstances prior to joining the project. Include details of the individual's employment status and previous work experience, skills and qualifications obtained prior to commencing on the project, any health issues, care responsibilities or particular barriers faced by the individual.

Since 1982 Mike has been employed as a driver/gardener in the District Assemblies section of Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council. Prior to this he had worked in various jobs including painting and decorating and had begun an apprenticeship in plumbing with City & Guilds. After being made redundant by his employer Mike was unable to complete the apprenticeship and started work with the Council. In this role he has completed a number of in-house courses and certificates, in particular related to health and safety, and holds an IPAF licence to operate a cherry picker.

Other than the CSEs he achieved at school Mike held no formal qualifications before enrolling on courses in literacy and numeracy. Mike found out about the courses through a Learning Routes Bus which visited his workplace to promote workplace learning. Mike had wanted to take courses in IT, maths and English for a couple of years but shift patterns and the need to maximise income at peak periods had limited his chances to register on a course.

The skills assessment and questionnaires he completed on the Bus gave Mike the opportunity to understand what the courses would involve and how they would be delivered around work commitments. This in turn gave him the incentive to agree an initial learning plan for a Level 2 numeracy qualification. The plan allowed for flexible participation in learning and for Mike to progress at his own pace.

Participant's Achievements (*Approximately 250 words*)

Describe the achievements of the participant whilst on the project. Include details of the progress made, any new skills or qualifications achieved, progress in gaining employment or work experience and barriers which have been overcome. Where activity is ongoing provide an update on progress.

Mike enrolled in a Level 2 numeracy qualification in December 2009. Despite having to take a break in the middle of his learning in order to accommodate work demands, Mike quickly progressed to achieving his certificate in March 2010. Mike felt that the initial assessment and questionnaires he had completed had given him a good impression of what to expect as regards the content of the course and this in turn had given him greater confidence in his ability to pass the examination.

Having attained the Level 2 numeracy qualification Mike immediately progressed onto the Level 2 certificate in literacy. As with his numeracy course Mike found the learning materials useful and stated that the delivery of the course was excellent, with tutors providing an open and supportive environment in which to raise questions and discuss different learning needs.

Mike found the flexibility of provision helpful in managing his work commitments and stated that the consistent and positive support he received from tutors was important in helping him progress quickly towards attainment. As a result he was confident of achieving his literacy certificate after sitting the examination on June 9th 2010. One area of improvement which Mike drew attention to was that he would have appreciated more access to a PC while in learning to help him further develop and embed his knowledge and skills.

Mike felt that aside from the actual qualifications, participation in the courses had been beneficial in terms of helping him tap into knowledge he already had but had forgotten. His confidence in using maths and English and in expressing himself more fully around decisions in the workplace had also grown as a consequence of being on the courses. His next step is to enrol on an IT course to develop his skills in this area.

PART C – DECLARATION

I confirm that:

- The information contained within this proforma is true and accurate.
- Where a participant has been identified as a case study that they have consented to be a case study, that they are aware that the information contained in this proforma may be used by the LSC for publicity purposes and that they may be required to have publicity photographs taken.
- Where a project case study has been provided that my organisation consents to the use of this information for publicity purposes and to taking of publicity photographs.

Please indicate Yes or No in the space provided next to each bullet point.

Print Name: Paul Callaghan

Position within Organisation: Contracts Manager