ePioneers: Taking ownership of e-learning A balanced account of capacity building

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Website context: ePioneers home → ePioneers programme

School response to audit findings

Minutes of ELSG meeting of 20th May 2005 (extract)

1 Initial points raised during the meeting (response to audit findings)

- i DC reported that the draft report had been presented to Learning and Teaching Committee. There were a few useful contributions offered.
- ii It was agreed that use of e-learning needs to become embedded into the School as a whole, and not separated out to meet individual requirements.
- iii It was felt the full Staff meeting was not the most appropriate forum to discuss elearning, and that Away Days would provide a more successful forum for discussion.
- iv The first Learning and Teaching meeting of the academic year is an open meeting, to which all staff are welcome. This may be a useful venue to launch the elearning strategy
- v It is important to have an inclusive agenda, so that support staff are involved as they need to be part of the discussion process.
- vi e-learning is a wider issue than just learning it has implications on what the School does and how it will survive into the future.
- vii Discussion must include how e-learning will be supported, and the infrastructure set up to do this. Previous ways have not been successful, so we must look at the sustainability of whatever is set up and identify the key people to be involved beyond the Away Day to develop it further.

2 Future steps

- i Staff need to be encouraged to have a long-term vision, as decisions taken now will affect how we work in 4 or 5 years' time.
- ii Staff need to be clear that it is ok to feel uncertain about this process.
- iii The best people to train staff are those in this building, as they understand the needs and have the expertise. We need to build bridges using clinics, drop-ins, away days, face-to-face sessions, etc.
- iv We need to be able to identify the vision, in order to be able to work towards it with confidence. The vision embedded in the School Plan has not been owned by staff, and they need to be brought into engagement with it.
- v TF suggested that e-learning should be a single item agenda for the HoS Technology and eLearning Support Strategy group.
- vi Further discussions should take place with the Staff Development Co-ordinator, and it was agreed she should be invited to join this group.
- vii The group were asked to consider different ways to provide an overview of elearning to staff next year: face to face, Away Days, etc.
- viii It was noted that the School of Education had not got an established culture of selfhelp and people did not see it as part of their job to help their colleagues. A notion of a community of helpers would have to be developed. This would also be a Workload issue.