

Herefordshire Council Community Learning Self Assessment Report 2010/11

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Each year we have a close look at the quality of the courses that we deliver, and make a judgment on ourselves against the assessment framework used by Ofsted ⁽¹⁾. The findings are published in an annual Self Assessment Report ⁽²⁾. For the academic year 2010/2011 we graded ourselves as 'good' ⁽³⁾.

How do we assess ourselves?

We look at 5 main headings:

- how much do learners enjoy the courses, achieve and use what they have learnt?
- how good is our teaching, and how well do we support our learners?
- how well do we identify and meet the needs of our learners, and ensure the quality of the service
- how good are we at always improving things?
- considering all of the above – how good are we overall?

We review a wide range of information to arrive at our judgments - including numbers of learners, attendance and achievement; comments from learners, tutors and partners; observing tutors; content of courses; notes from meetings and many others.

What we have said about ourselves

Learners enjoy a good quality of teaching in courses which they attend locally and benefit from, and they achieve their learning aims. We understand how important it is to work together with community organisations to make sure that the courses are accessible to those who will benefit from them. We have good arrangements to place and monitor the provision, and support organisations to deliver to a high level of quality. We are always working to improve, and can show the difference that improvements make.

Because of the lack of broadband in the county, we are not able to fully use e - learning opportunities to make the learning experience as good as it could be.

What our learners have said about us

- "This was an excellent course and Jackie is a brilliant tutor. It is very difficult to think of anything that I would change".
- "The course helped us learn to be a family. The teacher showed us how children learn and how to make it fun. I pass this on to my partner so he can be involved too"
- "I found the course very useful and it has given me confidence to use a computer, it is very good to have such courses locally, it is very important in a rural area."
- "Passing my Level 2 Maths Qualification has really boosted my confidence and I am now on a Teaching Assistant course."
- "I'm actually helping with homework now rather than hindering!"
- "I would recommend this course to anyone who thinks 'I can't do that' because you can with the patience and understanding of our tutor."
- "My son's teacher said the course has improved his numeracy skills and confidence. My children see my learning as a positive role model."
- "I really enjoyed the course. I now feel confident to shop on-line. This will benefit me as I find it difficult to walk and carry."

How to contact us

If you want more information on the report, or on what we do, contact Sue Cobourne: Adult and Community Learning Manager; (01432) 383639; scobourne@herefordshire.gov.uk

(1) Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills – we are inspected on a four to six year cycle.

(2) Full report is available from http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/docs/Education/Herefordshire_Council_SAR_2010-11.pdf.

(3) The grading scale is: 1 outstanding, 2 good, 3 satisfactory, 4 inadequate.