

Feedback - FRM:PiL Dissemination and Planning Day 23rd February 2010, Blackbrook House, Belper.

First of all we would like to thank everyone not just for coming to the Dissemination and Planning Day, but for contributing in such a positive and purposeful way.

We're really glad that so many of you found the evidence for supporting reading with families compelling (94%) and that the day was relevant for your work (94%).

Over half of you (58%) who were able to make a judgement on the day felt that being part of the FRM:PiL initiative was something that would be of importance to you in your future work.

Obviously, the way in which you thought would use what you had learned during the day was different for everyone. However, there was an underlying thread of planning to share what had been learned with colleagues in order to raise awareness of issues and a determination to build upon the networking opportunity the day had provided to raise the profile of literacy across services.

We recognised that it might be difficult for people to determine how they could be part of what happens next and that was why we gave time to thinking about possible projects in the last part of the day. Nevertheless some people were able to identify very concisely what they needed to do and who they needed to share that with in order to move the initiative forward. Once again, in this section one of the prime strategies was to make colleagues aware of the relevance of literacy on an operational and strategic role. Some participants were able to identify agendas and forums into which their increased awareness of the implications of literacy could be fed.

We're glad that so many of you appreciated the venue and can only apologise for the fact that the car park proved to be somewhat challenging! We had worked with the staff of Blackbrook House to improve the situation (the gardener and one of the facilitator's were out at 8am on the 23rd gritting the area) but the weather beat us.

As for the lunch - well, the split was about 50/50 - those of you who enjoyed both the food and the novelty of its presentation and those of you who found the quantity and choice of food disappointing and the presentation irritating. On the whole though, the supply of coffee, tea, biscuits and cakes was appreciated by everyone.

One participant raised the issue of the cost of the day; the funding came from the NLT budget, in which it was a required item. The cost per participant for everything; venue, lunch, refreshments, equipment, stationery and sundries was approximately £45.00.

FRM:PiL - The 'exploding' jigsaw

Housing	Local Government	Education
Community Safety	Family Reading Matters to...	CAB
Family Support	VCI	Health
because people with low literacy levels are more likely to live in overcrowded housing	because people with poor basic skills are much more likely to report being 'not at all' interested in politics	because 70% of pupils permanently excluded from school have difficulties in basic literacy skills.
because 25% of young offenders have reading skills below those of an average 7 year old.	Partners in Literacy Matters to professionals	because people with low levels of literacy are at greater risk of financial exclusion and social disadvantage
because women with lower literacy skills tend to have children when they are younger and tend to have more children.	because low literacy is related to unemployment, a lack of aspirations, poor physical and mental health and deprivation.	because low levels of literacy are associated with poor physical health and mental wellbeing and poor health-related practices.