

PLA Conference 2020 Workshops

Workshop 1: Essential Digital Skills development

The new digital entitlement will enable adults aged 19+ with no or low digital skills to undertake 'essential digital skills' qualifications, at Entry and Level 1, free of charge from August 2020.

The [Education and Training Foundation \(ETF\)](#) has developed essential digital skills resources on the [Enhance Digital Teaching Platform](#) to support teachers and trainers in delivering the new qualifications, together with a CPD programme.

During the prior research for this programme, four groups were identified who would need additional support either because of the particular needs of the learners and/or the constraints of the learning environment. These included Offender Learning, ESOL, Preparation for Life and Work and SEND. Four Learning Guides have been developed support these contexts.

This workshop will provide you with an overview of the resources and details on how to access the CPD programme planned from September 2020 to March 2021.

Led by Nick Jeans and Dawn Buzzard from Sero Consulting on behalf of the Education and Training Foundation.

Workshop 2: Inclusion in secure estates for neurodiverse / SEND residents

In this workshop, we will explore support and resources that have been developed for neurodiverse prison residents / those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). The workshop leader, Claire Collins, will introduce you to the Education and Training Foundation's Centres for Excellence in SEND. In addition, there will be an opportunity to explore the outcomes of projects undertaken in recent years that have focussed on 'whole prison approaches' to neurodiverse inclusion.

Led by Claire Collins from the Education and Training Foundation.

Workshop 3: Leadership in Prison Education: Meeting the challenges of the new system

Prison education can play a crucial part in enabling the rehabilitation and subsequent reintegration of the prison population. Leadership in prison has a vital role in realising this. The Prisoner Learning Alliance commissioned a [report](#), funded by the Further Education Trust for Leadership (FETL), on the role of leadership in prison education.

The research found that prison education leaders are keen to learn and to engage with organisations outside prison, especially further education colleges.

This workshop will provide an overview of the research findings and participants will be able to discuss and debate how leaders can meet the challenges of creating a whole-prison education culture. The 2020 Covid-19 lockdown has had a significant impact on delivery of prison education. This workshop will explore what leaders in prison education need to be doing at this time to support prison education.

Led by Angela Sanders author of the PLA report published in February 2020.

Workshop 4: Letter writing for self-reflection, creative expression and communication

[Safe Ground](#) is an award winning arts organisation with 25 years' experience designing and delivering therapeutic group work programmes for people in secure and community settings. Letter writing, whether as a means of communication, a tool for self-reflection or an outlet for creative expression, has long been an integral part of our methodology. And at a time like this, when the people we work with are suffering untold hardship in the absence of family visits, education, and association, it has never been more important. Yet finding words, thoughts or ideas that can be shared in new and creative ways remains an enormous challenge for so many.

In response, Safe Ground has developed Human Writes: Letter Writing, a reading and writing pack thoughtfully designed to offer ideas, inspiration, reference and motivation for letter writing.

Safe Ground invites you to join us in thinking about how you might explore, incorporate and encourage the art of letter writing in your work and among the people you are working with. We look forward to meeting you.

Led by Lindsay Murphy, Callie Davidson and Charlie Weinberg from Safe Ground.

Workshop 5: WayOut TV – education during lockdown and beyond

WayOut TV is an in-cell television service delivering information for education, entertainment and information. During this workshop, we will explore how WayOut TV has supported education through lockdown individually and by working with other organisations, and how it can continue to support prisoner learners as face-to-face education begins to reopen.

Led by Jezz Wright, Head of Digital Learning & Strategy at WayOut TV