

PINECL – Case study

From Jenny Bright, Northern Ireland 16/7/15

1. **What was the situation, background of the parent before attending the training course?** (e.g. existing family support, life and work background, rural background, challenges in life as a new parent etc.)

Max. 150 words

Before the course I was a stay at home mum to two young children. I had struggled to have children so they are my 'little miracles'. I had given up my career when I had become pregnant for the first time and have worked a bit part time since. Being a parent was something I had dreamed about and had been told would never happen. It is definitely the best thing to happen to me! However it is still a daunting job and every day presents new questions and challenges. I do ask my family for some advice but mostly it is my circle of friends that I rely on to help with answers. The internet and social media also helps. Before the course I would have had some knowledge of Early Childhood Learning but certainly not in the detail I now know. I would have had the confidence to talk to others about it .

2. **What were the experiences during the training programme of PINECL?** (main lessons learnt and experienced by the person, personal growth, growth in self esteem and parenting issues, development of networks between parents, with/without social media support, how did the training programme go along)

Max. 150 words

The training programme has equipped me with the knowledge and tools to approach parents and discuss childhood learning with them. I feel the course has helped me understand the different stages a young child goes through and why they may do some of the things that, without explanation, adults may find harder to understand. The course has made me more aware of how to search online for information relevant to the topic and the PINECL website has been very useful to access the podcasts and upload material for discussion or to share. I have discussed the course within my circle of friends and the topics covered and I now feel more confident when doing this. I also feel this confidence as a parent when I am interacting with my children and I have certainly changed the way I do certain things as a result of the course material.

3. **What is the situation of the person / parent after having completed the training programme?** (what has changed, what has become better, what worse, is there still mutual support between parents in a kind of network, does social media play a role in this network process, what are the deductions that can be made for the training curriculum and the parent academy, is there anything special and particular you could tell about the person)

Max. 150 words

Having completed the training programme I have definitely changed in some of the ways I approach my parenting. This change is for the better and is because I now have a greater understanding of young children. The parents I have met on the course will still be available as a support and social media is definitely a way of keeping in touch and exchanging views and advice in a positive way. The course is also a talking point amongst my peer group and friends and I know some of them would be interested in also getting involved in a course. I hope that going forward I will hopefully get involved in helping other parents on the topic of early childhood learning and I will also continue to use the Parents Academy website and Facebook to access information and take part in discussions with people here in the UK and in Europe.

4. **Quotations from the participant to be used in the project summary:**

Max. 150 words

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