



Agencija za odgoj i obrazovanje
Education and Teacher Training Agency

Learning communities of practice for teacher professional development : Practices and Challenges

Critical friendship, Peer Coaching and Action Research

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Think of an aspect of your work with teachers that you would like to investigate and formulate a question **How can I.....?**

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(Why) Learning communities of practice?

“The absence of follow-up after workshops is the greatest single problem in contemporary professional development.”

Michael Fullan

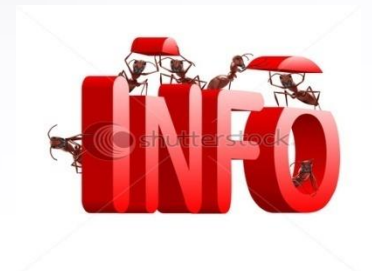
“It is what teachers think, what teachers do, and what teachers are at the level of the classroom that ultimately shapes the kind of learning that young people get.”

Michael Fullan and Andy Hargreaves



(Why) Is it important to evaluate one's own work?

- How well am I doing what I am doing?
- What do students **learn** when I teach them....?
- How effective is the change I have introduced?





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How do we learn....?

“We do not learn from experience...we learn from reflecting on experience.”

John Dewey





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The importance of reflection

“Reflective practice is the process of stepping back from experience to process what the experience means, with a view to planning further”

David Kolb





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Learning communities of reflective practice

- Critical friendship
- Peer coaching
- Action Research



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How it works?

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SpfGFKcguV0>

Which elements from the texts do you find mentioned in the video? Write them down.



Why (sometimes) it does not work?

- Time consuming
- Giving and receiving feedback – is it really effective?
- Timely and adequate support – is it available?
- Maintaining the focus and determination



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Reflection

- What strikes you as a really interesting point of view or useful for your teaching practice?
- What do you think and how do you feel about the answer(s) to your question?
- What would be your next step, after the workshop?

