Embedding the development of language skills into vocational teaching

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Areas to be covered

- What is embedded language and literacy?
- Relationship between language and vocational skills and knowledge
- Relationship between language and learning
- Why embed language development into vocational teaching
- Strategies for embedding the development of language skills into vocational teaching
- Resources for finding out more about embedding LLN
What is embedded language and literacy?

“Embedded teaching and learning combines the development of literacy, language and numeracy with vocational and other skills. The skills acquired provide learners with the confidence, competence and motivation necessary for them to succeed in qualifications, in life and in work.”

Skills for Life Strategy Unit (DfES 2003)
Vocational related language and literacy skills

Embedding language and literacy skills development requires an understanding of the language and literacy practices of the vocational area.
## Analysing vocational language and literacy practices

<table>
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<th>LfLFE framework for analysing literacy practices</th>
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<td><strong>What?</strong></td>
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<td>topic and issues</td>
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<td>styles, designs and conventions</td>
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<td><strong>Why?</strong></td>
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<td>purpose (s)</td>
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<td>flexibility and constraints</td>
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<td><strong>Who?</strong></td>
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<td>modes and technologies</td>
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<td>actions and processes</td>
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<td>interaction, collaboration and use of sources</td>
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The vocational classroom

- The vocational classroom has its own language and literacy practices
- These are intended to facilitate and assess learning
- These also need to be taken account of when considering embedding
Why embed language and literacy development?

• Leads to improved learner retention and achievement rates:
  – 16% point increase in retention on embedded vocational courses as compared to non embedded
  – 26% point increase in success rates on L2 vocational courses
  – 93% achievement rate in literacy/ESOL on embedded courses compared to 50% on non embedded
  – 93% achievement rate in numeracy on embedded courses compared to 70% on non embedded
Why embed language and literacy development?

• Leads to improved learner motivation

“You know, I need to have strong communication skills not only to deal with customers but also to set up my business. I need to know maths in order to set up a salon, like looking for a space, and dealing with all the orders and contracts…”

Learner
How to embed LLN development

• Whole organisation approach
• Effective teamwork between vocational, LLN and learning support staff
• Awareness raising and continuing professional development
• Teaching approaches that link vocational content to LLN development and facilitate learning and LLN development for learners
Embedding language and literacy skills development-practice

• Watch the video of some embedded provision in a London further Education college
• Make a note of any features that strike you
Questions

• Thank you for listening
• Are there any questions?