Real Learning

Using Business Partnerships to provide real learning opportunities for boys

Introduction

• Contextual Learning
• Business Partnerships
• Education for Enterprise
• Facilitation and Leadership
• Examples
• Challenges
• Outcomes
Real Learning

Contextual Learning

• Boys don’t like pretend
• Clear evidence that boys learn best in contextual situations
• Challenge for school structures to provide this in situ

Real Learning

Business Partnerships

• Traditionally have been about sponsorship, money and work placements
• Ours were set up based solely on learning opportunities for both organisations
• We have established 5 over 5 years
  • City Care – City Works
  • Cavell Leitch Law
  • Allied Telesis – International IT
  • Ravensdown Fertiliser
  • D A Lewis - Furniture manufacturers
Real Learning

Education for Enterprise

• New Zealand Trade and Enterprise sponsored Teacher Professional Development for 3 years
• Christchurch City Council “Outside the Square” contracted to deliver programme
• Enabled staff to access the opportunities that the Business Partnerships provided for Real learning to take place
• Critical aspect of the programme

Real Learning

Facilitation and Leadership

• This also was critical
• School and each company had to commit to named leader, resourcing and responsibilities
• The school contributes a management unit, time and a job Description
• Each company committed a senior executive with responsibilities
• Liz Deuchrass (EDAL) was contracted by the school and some cases the company to facilitate the process
Real Learning

EDAL Way
• A very deliberate, documented process
• Facilitation is its strength
• Major reason for the programmes success
• See handout booklet for examples of documentation and processes

Real Learning

Challenges
• Getting Companies to commit to such a formal process
• Staff Professional Development and taking up the opportunity
• Sustaining the momentum
• Time to manage a portfolio of 5 companies
• Real learning can take students out of other classes
Real Learning

Outcomes

• Student learning has been enhanced
• Staff and student attitude has increased significantly
• Some had firm job offers as a result of the programme
• Has broadened student attitudes to who are “teachers”

Where to from here?

• Make the programme sustainable
• Broaden the range of partners
• Continue to educate staff of the opportunities and benefits
  • Teachers day in business