Fruitful learning ecologies: Building effective partnerships

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TAFE NSW Outreach

AVETRA 2011
• Wetherill Park Outreach SWSI TAFE
• Liverpool Outreach SWSI TAFE
• Petersham Outreach SI TAFE
• **Fruitful learning ecologies**
  
  – **The seed**
  
  • Recurrent theme in Community of Practice
  • New challenges in partnerships
  • Commitment to research new paradigms
• **Fruitful learning ecologies**
  - Research with a lens on partnerships
    • 3 decades using multi-agency approach
    • rich reservoir of data from:
      – Statewide TAFE Outreach archives
      – TAFE Outreach practice across Sydney LGAs.
• **Fruitful learning ecologies**
  – 2010 framework fostered 'Third Sector' and government partnerships
  • benefits of partnerships in VET evidenced
  • current competitive paradigms
  • agencies struggle to win limited funds
  • impact on effectiveness of partnerships.
• **Fruitful learning ecologies**
  – Competition rather than collaboration
  • Elements of the third sector are ‘disembedded from their social and political contexts and denuded of ethical and moral content and purpose’. Carmel and Harlock (2008, p.155)
• **Fruitful learning ecologies**
  – **Essential ingredients of fruitful partnerships**
    • Transparent agendas
    • Creativity and risk taking
    • 'Safe space in the discourses for dissenting perspectives' (Plane, 2007)
    • Shared goals and commitment
• **Fruitful learning ecologies**
  – Contextualised
  • 35 year history of TAFE Outreach
  • Multiple dimensions of disadvantage
  • Multiculturalism – MRCs
  • Queensland - a watershed
• Fruitful learning ecologies
  – The process
    • Bronfenbrenners ecological model
    • Research literature review
    • Data sources and thematic analysis
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Microsystem

Family agents social peers

Lives person's passive setting

Individual

Construct include someone micro direct

Teachers helps contexts interactions

Recipient example experiences

Parents place settings

Neighborhood system school
• **Fruitful learning ecologies**
  • Research and literature review
  • Data sources and thematic analysis