



The Centre for Equity in Education

Promoting Multi-Agency Work
and the Role of Education
in Children's Services

An invitation to local authorities,
schools, and their partners, to
join a collaborative development
and research project, 2006-07



Multi-Agency Work

The Every Child Matters agenda is the most significant challenge facing policy makers and practitioners within local authorities. The need for multi-agency approaches, in particular, presents a challenge to current arrangements – not least within the education service – which local authorities must address.

To respond effectively to this challenge, The Centre for Equity in Education is offering six local authorities the opportunity to take part in a development and research initiative called CEEDAR (The Centre for Equity in Education Development and Research Process). Through this process, authorities will be supported in developing innovative responses to current policy demands and inspection frameworks.



What CEEDAR Involves

Authorities are invited to nominate a core team of officers and practitioners, from across children's services and education, to work with The Centre for Equity in Education. Drawing on the Centre's expertise, teams will work to solve real problems in their authority. They will take part in repeated cycles of development and research, and design, implement and evaluate projects to meet their authorities' needs.

To provide direct, project specific support, each team will be assigned research and education specialists from The Centre for Equity in Education. Teams will be supported to:

- clarify and articulate their aims
- develop realisable projects
- use up-to-date resources and relevant research evidence to strengthen their plans
- successfully implement their projects within their authorities
- share their knowledge and experiences with other authorities
- evaluate project outcomes and develop evidence-informed practices.

The Centre will take responsibility for overall co-ordination and evaluation, and will run workshops to support initial and ongoing project development.



The Commitment

Previous experiences of such development and research initiatives demonstrate that they will be powerful in bringing about change provided those involved are prepared to create the organisational conditions that support innovation. Teams will be involved over the course of one year starting in June/July 2006. This represents a major commitment on behalf of local authorities and the decision to take part should not be taken lightly.

The cost for each local authority is £5,000. This covers professional fees for the involvement of University staff, resource materials, and food and refreshments for members of the local authority teams during workshop sessions.



Expressing an Interest

We would welcome approaches from colleagues in local authorities who might be interested in taking part in the CEEDAR initiative. For an initial discussion about your possible involvement and to find out more, please contact either:

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