

Q-ED TEAMS For The Middle Years

Q-ED Teams is applied learning at its best. It was developed by industry for industry to improve performance. It can be adapted for the Middle Years.

The Geelong Quality Council is a not-for-profit organisation supporting local businesses by providing seminars and training.

We share materials, experience and programs as widely as we can.

The Geelong Quality Council is interested in exploring ways in which Q-ED can be developed as a sustainable element of the Middle Years curriculum.

The Q-ED Teams Program at a glance

Training Day - 6 hours			
Introduction to basic Quality Principles	How to work effectively in a team	Systematic problem solving using basic quality tools	Developing an action plan to use on-site to solve a real problem
How to plan and deliver a formal presentation			
The Placement - 5 days			
<p>The teams attend an actual workplace for 5 days applying their learning to solve a real workplace problem.</p> <p>The team acts as independent consultants to systematically tackle the problem.</p> <p>At the end of the placement the teams formally present their findings to the management of the workplace.</p>			

Q-ED Teams and The Middle Years

Q-ED Teams is a brilliant and proven program which is ideally suited to the Middle Years.

One Possible Scenario

Short Term

- The GQC could conduct Q-ED Teams programs for schools to benefit students and to help teachers become acquainted with the program.

How this might look in practice.

- *Four schools provide one team each (3-4 students)*
- *Teams are selected from 'accelerated' groups in a specified year level (Years 7-9)*
- *One teacher from each school attends the training day to experience the program.*
- *The five teams (4 student and one teacher team) attend the training day.*
- *Each student team is placed at one of the other schools to look at a real workplace issue, (or their own school, or a primary school?).*
- *The teacher from that school who attended the training days acts as a facilitator.*
- *The Geelong Quality Council would provide a School Facilitator Kit to help schools select an appropriate problem and look after the team during its placement.*
- *Placements are for 2-3 days (?).*
- *At the end of the placement each team presents its findings to an audience at the school. (The full staff, school council, leadership group, combination, or a Q-ED Teams 'Expo' where all four teams present to a larger audience?)*

- *The Geelong Quality Council could provide support for the teams during the placement.*
- *The host schools would need to provide a working space, access to resources and appropriate IT support for the team.*

Possible Costs to run this kind of program.

- *If schools provide food and a venue the training day would cost \$500. This would include two trainers for the training day, all materials and resources.*
- *We could also provide support during the placement at normal CRT rates. (For example, Tom Adair could spend the two days attending the schools to support and guide the teams and facilitators. This might mean about an hour and a half each day at each school for the price of a normal CRT.) Based on a two-day placement this would take the cost for the full program to about \$950.*

Medium Term

- The Geelong Quality Council prepares teachers to conduct their own Q-ED Teams in-house or with other schools, (for example, a cluster).
- This would involve two stages:
 - Taking teachers through at least one full program as hosts. This would mean they would attend the training day and act as Host Facilitators in their schools for a team from another school.
 - The GQC trains a team of teachers to run their own program. This would need commitment from the teachers and schools involved to ensure, for example, that teachers were competent to conduct the training day.

Long Term

- GQC provides decreasing support for team of teachers to implement and sustain a Q-ED Teams program. For example, being a trainer on Training days and providing support during planning and implementation stages.
- Costs for the medium and long term would need to reflect the work needed to successfully implement and sustain such an extensive undertaking.

Q-ED and the Middle Years Curriculum

Q-Ed Teams covers all of the central elements of the DOTS model of career development: Self Awareness in relation to work, Opportunity Awareness, Decision-making and Transitions.

Q-ED and the Employability Skills

Q-ED Teams covers a wide range of the aptitudes and skills in the Employability Skills Framework, (ACCI and Business Council of Australia, 2002).

Aptitudes

Loyalty, Commitment, Honesty & Integrity, Enthusiasm, Reliability, Personal presentation, Common Sense, Positive self-esteem, Sense of humour, Balanced attitude to work and home, Dealing with pressure, Motivation, Adaptability.

Skills

Communication, Teamwork, Problem Solving, Self Management, Planning and Organising, Technology, Learning, Initiative, Enterprise.

*Tom Adair
11 September 2007*

*mob 0432 096 225
email adair17@optusnet.com*