FEUERSTEIN COURSES IN COGNITIVE EDUCATION TO SUPPORT A CURRICULUM FOR EXCELLENCE

Accredited Trainer Billy O'Neill
www.feuersteintraining.co.uk

COURSE DESCRIPTORS AND TRAINING EVALUATIONS

The courses are designed to significantly improve teaching, learning, behaviour, motivation, attitude, insight, self-concept and transfer of learning to prepare students for learning in the 21st century.

The participants will develop their ability to improve their students' development as successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors.

Instrumental Enrichment (FIE) Standard Level 1 (10yrs - adult) Training in Thinking Skills - Learning How To Learn

5 day course for teachers, lecturers, psychologists, parents and support staff working in Primary, Special, Secondary and Further Education.

Reuven Feuerstein's Instrumental Enrichment is a cognitive intervention programme which causes significant and powerful gains in student learning and achievement.

More than 1500 studies with a wide range of learner populations from countries around the world attest to the power of Feuerstein's methods in increasing students' cognitive performance, academic achievement and emotional intelligence.

IE provides an intensive and rigorous training programme that prepares the teacher or helper to correct deficiencies in fundamental thinking skills, provides students with the concepts, skills, strategies, operations and techniques necessary to function as independent learners, increases their motivation, develops students' metacognition, and helps students learn how to learn and how to transfer learning.

IE materials are organised into 14 instruments that comprise a series of pen and paper tasks that increase in difficulty, are independent of content in any subject area and target the development of cognitive functions that are readily transferable to all educational and everyday life situations.

The course consists of 5 Instruments or units of work.

Organisation of Dots: learning how to inhibit impulsiveness, search systematically, transport visual images, develop strategies and precision and accuracy. Developing and enhancing a range of cognitive functions (thinking tools) that can be generalised and transferred.

Orientation in Space 1: perceiving and projecting spatial relationships, which leads to an understanding of interpersonal relationships. Reducing egocentricity, increasing flexibility of thinking and representational thinking.

Comparisons: learning to develop spontaneous comparative behaviour. Improving perception, precision and the ability to establish relationships.

Analytic Perception: learning to divide wholes into component parts and constructing wholes by projecting the relationships between the parts. Developing an analytic approach to life.

Illustrations: learning how to perceive problems and discover the solutions. Developing the ability to decode details, use hypothetical and inferential thinking. Learning how to perceive relationships.

Instrumental Enrichment Basic (FIE Basic)
Training in Thinking Skills - Learning How To Learn.

5 day course for teachers, lecturers, psychologists, support staff, and parents working with children and students in Nursery, Primary, Special and Further Education.

The Basic course is designed to accelerate cognitive development and develop social competence. The course is appropriate for children 3 to 8 years of age, and for the older student who has a low performance level and needs a more systematic and developmentally based approach.

It is designed to be used with whole class groups, small groups, and as a one-to-one therapeutic intervention. Pupils learn to "think about their thinking," metacognition, by reflecting on the strategies learned and applying them to curriculum content and problem solving tasks.

The course consists of 5 Instruments or units of work.

Organisation of Dots: learning how to inhibit impulsivity, to plan, search systematically, transport visual images, develop strategies, perception, precision and accuracy.

From Unit to Group: learning to understand the concept of number and the cardinality of number while developing a range of cognitive functions (thinking tools) that can be generalised.

Identifying Emotions: learning the language of emotions, understanding emotions in self and others and understanding emotions generated in social situations.

From Empathy to Action: learning to reflect upon emotions and reactions to given situations and developing empathic understanding - the mechanism of empathy.

Compare and Discover the Absurd: learning to develop spontaneous comparative behaviour. Improving perception, precision and the ability to establish relationships.

What qualification will be gained?

On completion of the course the Trainee receives a certificate of IE Mediator. The certificate is recognised worldwide as a qualification to teach IE.

Who is the Trainer?

Billy O'Neill is an Accredited Trainer having completed his training under Professor Reuven Feuerstein at the International Centre for the Enhancement of Learning Potential (ICELP) in Jerusalem, Israel.

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FEUERSTEIN TRAINING EVALUATION

Training Auckland , New Zealand 6th July – 10th July, 2015
29 Educators attended. 27 Evaluation forms completed.

INSTRUMENTAL ENRICHMENT BASIC LEVEL 1

Please complete this Evaluation Questionnaire by circling the appropriate response to each question.

[1] How did you find the content of the presentation delivered by Billy O'Neill ?

(a) VERY INFORMATIVE (b) INFORMATIVE (c) NOT INFORMATIVE

27

[2] Did you understand how to use the instruments?

(a) YES (b) NO

27

[3] Will the course make a positive impact on your professional practice?

(a) YES (b) NO

27

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS (Please add any further comments in the box below)

Thank you for a wonderful week of exciting learning! Billy has been a wonderful tutor who has a great level of experience that he so willingly drew from to instruct and inspire us in the area of practical mediation. Looking forward to implementing this myself. Thanks again.

Billy O'Neill delivered all the information so clearly and did a fantastic job enriching us with the knowledge of Feuerstein. I am excited to move forward using the instruments to have a positive effect on many childrens lives in the future.

Billy has a very amazing way of teaching so that it is understandable, using different modalities to reach everyone.

Fabulous course. Thank you Billy and Renate. Feel very inspired to help all children to think to the best of their abilities. Billy, thank you for transferring your learning of this amazing insight into 'learning' Your love (passion) of helping the children/people of our world is commendable. We need more people like you in every society. Housekeeping - having sheets prepared/ready to refer to when relevant. Follow-up – important and vital for training and teachers to be supported after the course is completed. Thanks for bringing this programme ' Out of the Wilderness' to New Zealand. Kia Kaha (stand strong) Billy. Take care. Karen Smith

Thank you so much for an amazing week. I have learnt so much and this has cemented my belief that there had to be something else out there that would help children with learning difficulties to be able to learn.

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Fantastic, thank you! I and my 2 colleagues can see this fitting into our school. It fits comfortably with our St. Kentigern way. It fits perfectly with our triple P programme for parents. I cannot wait to give it a go! I can just see the boys that would benefit so well. I would appreciate more updated research, written materials available pre the course. House keeping - provision of morning tea. I now want all our staff to complete this course. Should be compulsory for teacher training.

Facilities at St. Kentigern's were well located and great. Billy O'Neill is an extremely knowledgeable Feuerstein Trainer. I hope to be trained by him again in the near future.

To Billy. Thank you so much for your wonderful teaching method. Also, being available for questions via email after the course is finished. I look forward to seeing my daughter with Down Syndrome grow and develop. Yvonne.

I am really looking forward to using the instruments and improving my mediation to all the people I am with, be they students or my children or friends. I hope I will do the programme justice and I will try my best. I hope Billy can come back again when I do Basic 2 etc. I enjoyed learning about the statistics and hearing the anecdotes. Thank you so much. Sharon Disciple.

It was absolutely awesome. I am so excited, can't wait to start. After several career changes, numerous years at university, I feel I have finally found something I can invest in for the rest of my life and feel passionate about. Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

Good use of content + practical work. Can't wait to try this on our children. Thanks for the inspiration week.

So inspired, so excited and so motivated to give this programme a jolly good go! Very excited at the possibilities to help everyone as a teacher and as a parent. Thank you so much.

Billy has been a wonderful mediator. He has made the material come alive and his passion for the work and for making a difference, for bringing positive change into the lives of the disadvantaged, has truly inspired. It has been a priviledge to work and learn with him. We hope to have him come back. Arohanui Billy. (Natasha Newton)

Inspiring and rewarding. Thank you for your passion and love for this programme and desire to make transformative changes to mankind. Lorraine kokin.

I liked the way Billy related theory to practice and brought in his own experiences.

A wonderful balance between the theory and an opportunity to practise the instruments. I enjoyed the videos, and in particular, the one with Professor Feuerstein-very inspirational. The breadth of the influence and impact in so many areas (empathy) not just 'academic' has been a revelation. Thanks so much Billy for such an in depth week. I loved your own passion for this work.

It has been so enlightening to have had the priviledge of being trained by such an informative and entertaining trainer. Thank you - my first introduction to this has been amazing.

Very clear instructions in use of instruments. Lots of repetition which helped consolidate. Thank you.

Well delivered with lots of detail. Well researched, clearly presented. Interactive. Excellent trainer - knowledgeable and enthusiastic. Excellent resources.

I really enjoyed Billy's presentation and would really appreciate it if he could come back for Basic 2. I think he has a wealth of knowledge to share with us about IE and has left me feeling very positive about putting what I learnt into practice.

I will find it very challenging to implement IE with my Grade One Students. I hope to be able to make a difference helping them to learn to think. I am sure this course has helped me to 'think' about my way of thinking, learning and teaching. Thanks.

I am keen to share the insight I have gained and hopefully encourage others to investigate training in FIE and MLE (colleagues working with special needs, specific learning difficulties and language impoverished students, in low socio-economic areas). I have found many points of convergence/corroboration with other programmes (Habits of Mind especially) and research + philosophical paradigms (such as the Suzuki Method-music). Thank you.

I will investigate IE Basic in my standard class/individual work with 5 students as part of my ongoing experience delivering FIE in schools.

Fantastic. Now it is how to navigate for implementation.
Very much enjoyed the training and looking forward to practice with my kids. Looking forward to see how it changes their cognition and increases their knowledge.

FEUERSTEIN TRAINING EVALUATION

Training Auckland , New Zealand 13th July – 17th July, 2015
32 Educators attended. 29 Evaluation forms completed.

INSTRUMENTAL ENRICHMENT STANDARD LEVEL 1

Please complete this Evaluation Questionnaire by circling the appropriate response to each question.

[1] How did you find the content of the presentation delivered by Billy O'Neill ?

(a) VERY INFORMATIVE	(b) INFORMATIVE	(c) NOT INFORMATIVE
28	1	

[2] Did you understand how to use the instruments?

(a) YES	(b) NO
29	

[3] Will the course make a positive impact on your professional practice?

(a) YES	(b) NO
29	

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS (Please add any further comments in the box below)

A very interesting training. I've gained a lot of insight into teaching and mediation for children. Highly recommend this to teachers. Billy was very easy to follow and is awesome at teaching and modelling.

Billy, in all my years of teaching this has been the best course, in every possible way, that I have ever attended. Your delivery and passion was fantastic. Thank you so much. Safe travelling and you must be a wonderful Grandpapa! Thank you. Anna

Thoroughly excellent PD. Relevant. Meaningful. Enlightening. Inspiring. Billy remained focused intensely on material and on us. A wonderful presenter.

I found it invaluable that Billy related his own FIE experiences, working with dysfunctional teenagers, to the theory and practice of FIE. I found the link that experience has 2 components - emotional and cognitive, insightful for my work as an RTLB. I feel somewhat apprehensive and nervous about working through the mediated instruments with high need learners. But I have a powerful and strong belief to help these learners tap into their potential. I am very privileged to have had the course this week and feel inspired.

It has been a privilege to be part of this process. I am looking forward to implementing MLE/IE into current teaching and learning to help enhance metacognition.

Thank you Billy. I have a clear direction as to how to progress from here as the leader of our school. This really is very exciting and enlightening. Thanks for your delivery approach, you have been wonderful. May thanks. Carla McNeill, Principal, Korakoni School

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I found it interesting that the two Scottish girls (student interviews on video) found the bridging the most useful part of the programme. It made it real for them. I found the programme intrinsically motivating and can see how kids could do as well. Thanks heaps Billy!

I am a teacher aide in a classroom which follows the Feuerstein programme. I found this course to be incredibly beneficial as I now am fully equipped with an understanding and meaning to the underlying theory of this programme. I have a passion in supporting our young ones reach their potential and increase in learning. This programme will definitely help me in my quest. Thank you.

This course has just enhanced what I learnt in Basic 1 and tweaked my understanding. I appreciated getting the information from a teaching perspective, it made a lot of sense and I could see how to implement it in a classroom situation which I had not seen in my previous course which centred on small groups.

I have enjoyed this course very much, and Billy's presentation was excellent. I do feel that I have an awful lot to go away and get my head around now. I will endeavour to implement this in the classroom although I currently don't have a supportive school. I will implement it with my own children who have learning difficulties. I am very excited about this and hope I can train further. Thank you.

The challenge now comes with using all the areas you have covered. Huge thanks for stimulating the brain cells -your belief is contagious! Safe travels, may you continue to inspire...and yes - perhaps one day the world will change.

I found the delivery of the programme to be highly effective as it was delivered in a way that enables the student to practically attempt mediation whilst learning about the fundamental theories that underpin the process. The trainer (Billy) was very passionate about IE and gave many inspirational and practical ways that IE has been used to enhance the lives of individuals throughout the world. An excellent week of learning!

Wow! Thank you Billy. I'm looking forward to taking this back to my students and seeing their progress. It might be quite good if we had a blog of some sort so we could have a chance to check in in a few weeks on our experiences. It is at times easy to fall back into old habits when you're not surrounded by like minded people. I'm sure the facebook/website will be of some help. Thanks again.

Feeling inspired and transformed. Billy has shared a wealth of personal knowledge and wisdom. The course has enabled me to connect many "dots" in my previous learning and experience... connecting it all together in a clear theory with a very practical set of tools.

Billy was very informative and with a large group to work with, he ensured everyone understood the content. Very passionate about the programme and sharing his knowledge and experiences with our group. Awesome.

Inspirational and informative. This is the start of a new journey that I will commence with tools to help even when the going gets tough. Thank you.

An amazing week, thank you. The intertwined stories always help. I want to put a package together to present to schools and more up to date videos would help me with this.

Would love to do it all again!!! May have helped to have done Basic course first.

Can't wait to get back to school and get started! Definitely back for Standard 2. Many thanks.

Would love to do all the courses..... night school, online learning...rather than wait for next course to come to region.

Wonderful Billy, Thank you. Claire Verzian Southwell School. Hamilton

Fantastic facilitation. Great analogies for uses and outcomes of the IE tools. Confirms that labels for barriers to learning do not matter. It is more important to have an open mind to what is possible and to always ask yourself "if I was the child how would this learning experience affect me/make me feel"!

Really liked Billy's presenting style. Helped you to feel relaxed. Created motivation and interest in programme. A marvellous programme indeed! Didn't even know it existed until a friend told me about it. Thanks Billy.

I am a parent not a teacher but I have so enjoyed the course and learnt so much that I can take away with me to use in my home life with my daughter. I may do some instruments with her. Although she is already doing Feuerstein with someone else, it has given me a much better understanding of what she is doing. I now have absolute confidence in what she is doing. Once I have more confidence, I will offer to take some other children. Billy is a wonderful trainer and is extremely inspirational. I wanted to hang onto every word. Thank you so much.

Very worthwhile and more than happy to have given up a week of the holiday for this. Billy certainly made the information very accessable (there was a lot of it). Although this was developed in the last few decades, it would be good to see some updated videos or follow-up studies. Thanks!

Thank you for a vey enriching programme! Much appreciated.

This course has been very informative - well paced, and useful to my Masters degree. Thank you.

FEUERSTEIN TRAINING EVALUATION

Training 23 - 27June 2014, 19 Educators representing 14 schools in Reading, England. 19 Evaluation forms completed.

INSTRUMENTAL ENRICHMENT (FIE) BASIC LEVEL 1

Please complete this Evaluation Questionnaire by circling the appropriate response to each question.

[1] How did you find the content of the presentation delivered by Billy O'Neill ?

(a) VERY INFORMATIVE (b) INFORMATIVE (c) NOT INFORMATIVE

19

[2] Did you understand how to use the instruments?

(a) YES (b) NO

19

[3] Will the course make a positive impact on your professional practice?

(a) YES (b) NO

19

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS (Please add any further comments in the box below)

A very inspiring week, changed my thinking about how children learn - Thank you.

Extremely powerful and inspirational. It ... changed me not only as a teacher but as a parent as well.

I just want to say a MASSIVE thank-you for opening my eyes to a new (for myself) way of learning which has inspired the way I will move forward with how I "mediate" from now on - using all fantastic resources. Billy your a real credit to education and really passionate about what you do which has made the course all the more inspiring.

The course is utterly inspiring! Billy is a warm and approachable educator and it has been a privilege to be on this course. I would very much like to continue the training because I believe that all children will benefit from this; and it will benefit their futures. CJ Grant.

A very empathetic man, who is passionate about his work and to continue this with schools and communities - "amazing" well done it is a pleasure to be part of the IE programme and will enjoy seeing results very soon! Look forward to 'Standard' course when available in Reading.

It took until Wednesday for it all to start to 'knit' together. I will make this work in our school. I am excited and feel enormously empowered. See you soon on the Standard course! Hopefully!

I can't wait to push many of these techniques and resources into place back at school. The activities will benefit many children that spring to mind with difficulties in engaging and sharing their true potential. Thank you for all your knowledge and guidance.

Thank you so much Billy. I can't wait to start using the instruments in school. I know that the students will benefit greatly and what I have learned will transform my teaching. It's been an amazing week!

Reading, 2014 Evaluations (continued)

Would like to go back to school and start straight away. I'm sure this will have a huge impact on our children.

Thank you Billy for all your limitless knowledge. I walked in on Monday with no idea of what Feuerstein said and did. I walk out now on Friday with Paramount of understanding of cognitive development. I have confidence of using all the instruments I have been taught in at school. Once again, Thank you!

I have learnt so much in the (FIE) Basic Level 1 course. It has changed my life and the way of thinking and teaching. I feel this Programme can make a difference to any child/adult. It is amazing and can't wait to explore in depth.

It was an excellent training and it has changed my way of looking at children a Ind will teach children to give them a better opportunity in life, to be successful and achieve their dreams and goals. Being happy and well-balanced human beings.

Fantastic! Having a massive effect on me. Can't wait to try it out. Would love to do the 'Standard' course. All our time on course was covered to a high standard.

Really informative course. Looking forward to taking all the instruments back and using them with pupils. Would be very keen to do the Standard course in the future.

Thought provoking and reflective, I have no doubt that my practice will be developed and 'modified' to enable me to work with the children in my school. Many thanks Billy. I look forward to seeing you again for the Standard course!

An inspiring course. This will help to change the lives of our children.

I look forward to providing (more) evidence of how MLE and IE can improve the learning ability of children. Hopefully, it won't be too long before I see you again for the standard course.

I have really enjoyed the training it has been very informative. I am very excited about using this in school and already discussing with colleagues how we could implement this and target children. I would really enjoy the standard training if it was available. Billy was a great educator!

Will go away to ensure I can use the vocabulary of 'cognitive functions' correctly in order to ensure my pupils develop the same vocabulary and make the necessary links when learning to learn. Many thanks indeed Billy. Anton

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FEUERSTEIN TRAINING EVALUATION

Training 7 - 11 April 2014 Gloucester Academy, England
20 Trainees 15 Evaluation forms completed.

INSTRUMENTAL ENRICHMENT Standard LEVEL 1

Please complete this Evaluation Questionnaire by circling the appropriate response to each question.

[1] How did you find the content of the presentation delivered by Billy O'Neill ?

(a) VERY INFORMATIVE (b) INFORMATIVE (c) NOT INFORMATIVE

15

[2] Did you understand how to use the instruments?

(a) YES (b) NO

15

[3] Will the course make a positive impact on your professional practice?

(a) YES (b) NO

15

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS (Please add any further comments in the box below)

Amazing Experience, thank you. Our students (and myself) will begin to experience a new way of learning + fulfilling their true potential - again, thank you.

I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to receive this training as I believe it has been a life changing experience. I already think differently and have been practising and implementing the knowledge I have on my 3 young ones. An amazing programme with fantastic instruments. (Simone Kelly)

These skills can be applied in our everyday lives. Many of the instruments are common sense but I wouldn't have known how to bring out the best in myself or someone else without the knowledge from Billy. This is a life-changing programme and I am looking forward to becoming proficient in it.

My brain is fried!! I won't be able to approach teaching the same way again, thank you. It is a truth, a real answer to a significant problem in the education system. I'm excited to use it. (Esther Fuller)

Billy's knowledge and understanding of FIE is outstanding and his enthusiasm to share this was excellent. Thank you for the training!

Really enjoyable week with an excellent tutor who has helped to further enhance my development.

Such an effective, warm and inspirational teacher. Life and world changing.

So many ideas to take on to my pastoral and educational work with people of all ages and may explore Feuerstein's work more either here or Israel, or both.

Gloucester Academy Evaluations (continued)

Billy has great knowledge and understanding of FIE and I'm looking forward to using it at home with my children and with the pupils at school. Thanks

An enjoyable and inspiring week which, as a teacher at the start of my career, will undoubtedly have a distinctly positive impact on my practice and the learning of the young people I teach.

The full week was needed to fully understand all instruments.

I am looking forward to implementing this into a subject and the curriculum as well as changing (modifying) the environment of Gloucester Academy. Thanks again Billy.

Billy has opened up my "thinking about thinking" further. I am keen to practice IE at standard level then build on this.

A really enjoyable programme. I learnt a lot about the different cognitive tools and I am excited about how I can use these in lessons. I have gained a greater empathy and understanding of the behaviour of learners.

A highly informative and thought provoking week. FIE is, in my opinion, exactly what the young people at Gloucester Academy need, and I look forward to implementing it in my future practice.

FEUERSTEIN TRAINING EVALUATION

FIE Training 16 - 20 February, 2014 London, England
15 Educators attended. 15 Evaluation forms completed.

INSTRUMENTAL ENRICHMENT Standard LEVEL 1

Please complete this Evaluation Questionnaire by circling the appropriate response to each question.

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[2] Did you understand how to use the instruments?

(a) YES (b) NO

15

[3] Will the course make a positive impact on your professional practice?

(a) YES (b) NO

15

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS (Please add any further comments in the box below)

Very clear and fluent presentation. Great at engaging the audience and mediating the content. Thank you.

Absolutely amazing!! I'm looking forward to putting into practice many of the instruments taught to us during the course. Well done Billy. Keep up the fantastic work!!

I have never been on such an inspiring course. The instruments were given very clearly.

A most enlightening, inspiring presenter whose passion and belief in IE was infectious. Created within us as a group a need and a desire to take further courses. The 5 days passed by far too quickly! Cannot wait for the next round.

Thank you Billy for such an informative and interesting course. You made learning enjoyable and helped me to not only feel confident in my ability to use the instruments, but expanded my mental field to think about creating opportunities to develop my scope for using my skills, and linking with my coaching.

Billy, thank you so much. You really enhanced my ability to be a better educator. Whether just with MLE+ cognitive functions and also the instruments. Motty Simmonds

London, 2014 Evaluations (continued)

It was a fabulous course. I feel very confident to give it over and I am really looking forward to it. Thank you for training us in an enjoyable and informative manner! I will hopefully be in touch for the Basic and other instruments for the standard.

Billy, I have been blown away by the effectiveness of mediated learning, and the power of the tools that I have acquired over the last week. I look forward to facilitating the development of my clients using these instruments. I very much look forward to continuing with more of this fantastic work. Thank you! Nechoma Sehwab

Thank you very much, you have opened my mind to an effective new way of teaching and it reflects my feelings that just because a child has been labelled doesn't mean they can't achieve.

More than anything, this course has broadened my 'Mental Field' to a whole new understanding and awareness of what happens in the brain of a person when he learns. Thank you for a wonderful and fascinating learning experience! Baili

Very informative. Patient to answer all the questions. Friendly and humble - for me makes it easier to take in the info!

Fantastic Billy – keep up your excellent work.

Excellent presentation.

The course was very informative and I'm looking forward to implementing it and seeing results. Thank you for an eye opening experience.

FEUERSTEIN TRAINING EVALUATION

Training 1 - 5 April 2013 Essa Academy, Bolton, England
20 Trainees 19 Evaluation forms completed, one without comments.

INSTRUMENTAL ENRICHMENT Standard LEVEL 1

Please complete this Evaluation Questionnaire by circling the appropriate response to each question.

[1] How did you find the content of the presentation delivered by Billy O'Neill ?

(a) VERY INFORMATIVE (b) INFORMATIVE (c) NOT INFORMATIVE

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[2] Did you understand how to use the instruments?

(a) YES (b) NO

19

[3] Will the course make a positive impact on your professional practice?

(a) YES (b) NO

19

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS (Please add any further comments in the box below)

Billy was a fantastic trainer, passionate and easy to understand. I've found the course invaluable and I am now keen to learn all 14 instruments along with the basic. Looking forward to implementing the IE and seeing how I can bridge the gap between teaching and learning. (Alex Tems)

I feel privileged to be a part of such a revolutionary yet necessary training course. It will most certainly positively impact my teaching and my students. Thanks Billy – I thoroughly enjoyed the week.

Excellent! I cannot wait to start using what I have learned with my students. Billy was so passionate and instilled that passion for FIE in us. Looking forward to completing the Basic Course. (Jemma)

Really enjoyed the course and it has really helped me to think of other ways of teaching to develop students' cognitive skills. I have taken away some brilliant ideas and I can really see the benefit of the programme.

A pleasure to be taught FIE and given the chance to use on our students and taught by such a great trainer who presented and explained the course very well and made me recognise I was cleverer than I thought I was.

Very informative. Billy was extremely enthusiastic which contributed to us all being inspired by the approach. Looking forward to implementing the programme and the positive impact I am sure it will have if we are able to deliver it in the effective manner that it is intended to be done.

A very interesting course that I can implement with students I work with. I believe all children have the potential to succeed and with the use of these instruments I can support students confidently. Very well facilitated by Billy who explained all instruments effectively (Sue Yates, Student Welfare Officer Essa).

Detailed and interesting course fantastically delivered by Billy. I have taken away ideas that I can use with immediate effect within my teaching.

Essa Academy Evaluations (continued)

I have thoroughly enjoyed the course and feel very optimistic that it will guide me in the way I work in future with my students. It is very thought-provoking and has made me assess myself. A wonderful course (Karen Wood, Student Welfare Officer at Essa Academy).

I have enjoyed this course so much! I have learned so much about myself and the ways I will do things differently (being aware of how I say/mediate to the students). I have picked up some excellent strategies. I intend to implement into my mediating, and have started to! I enjoyed this so much that I wish to take this further! Thanks.

FIE will fit perfectly alongside New Basics at Essa Academy. The mediation skills taught in the course make sense and allow deeper learning to happen. It will help us reach students that we have not been able to before.

Very enjoyable and worthwhile course. Well delivered and planned. I enjoyed doing the instruments from a learner's point of view. Thanks Billy!

Excellent delivery and manner. Thoroughly enjoyed covering the content and applying new skills. Not sure I would have been as engaged at times if it wasn't for Billy's enthusiasm, experience and attitude. Thank you very much for sharing your experience and knowledge. This has been an excellent opportunity for me at this early stage in my career.

Really enjoyed this week of training – thank you. I am very excited by the enhanced good practice and success stories of this FIE approach and I can see how my new skills and knowledge will inform and shape my future teaching and practice. Professor Feuerstein is a pure inspiration and I pray I can measure up to his philosophies and belief. Thank you so much.

An extremely passionate delivery. The clear evidence and persuasion that this can make such a difference has inspired me to work harder to ensure that students receive a constant source of mediation from myself. I will begin on Monday.

The course is inspiring and provides you with lots of new techniques to mediate rather than show. It would be good to receive the handouts as a binder. I am looking forward to using my new instruments to allow students to reach new goals. Thank you!

Thank you very much. The method is simplistic and achievable and makes SO much sense. I feel that my teaching will become enhanced and hopefully the pupils learning will be a positive one! I am looking forward to implementing this way of learning.

Clear explanations made throughout the course. Informative to planning.

FEUERSTEIN TRAINING EVALUATION

Training 26th - 28th October, 9th – 10th November, 2013
Essa Academy, Bolton, England.
22 Evaluation forms completed, 19 with comments.

INSTRUMENTAL ENRICHMENT BASIC LEVEL 1

Please complete this Evaluation Questionnaire by circling the appropriate response to each question.

[1] How did you find the content of the presentation delivered by Billy O'Neill ?

(a) VERY INFORMATIVE	(b) INFORMATIVE	(c) NOT INFORMATIVE
21	1	

[2] Did you understand how to use the instruments?

(a) YES	(b) NO
22	

[3] Will the course make a positive impact on your professional practice?

(a) YES	(b) NO
22	

This course has revolutionised my teaching already. Billy is fantastic and explains everything so clearly.

The course has given greater insight into the content and purpose of the program. It also shows how to support the program in subject-based classrooms – identifying cognitive functions, bridging and mediating effectively. The course has also given me options to help my son through a difficult and prolonged period of his life. Thank you!

The course gave me the tools to apply the pedagogy of learning and to reach every child's needs and potential.

Billy's belief, passion and extensive knowledge is obvious. A very helpful course.

I have recently used one of the instruments (emotions) during a topic of work on Natural Disasters, it worked very well! I was observed and the comment in my feedback said "very good standard of questioning insisting on precise language and logical evidence. Students were fully emerged in the topic and able to express feelings."

Thank you Billy for another fantastic course. From using what I learnt on the standard course my teaching is better and I have seen the changes in those I teach and also my own children.

An inspiring approach which has given me an understanding of the cognitive barriers to learning that some of our students face and has equipped me with strategies that will enable me to impact positively on students' cognition.

This course really makes me think about the way I teach and has taught me how to work better with some students I used to struggle with. Thank you.

Billy delivered the course very well and was very knowledgeable about IE. Very interesting and will definitely make a huge difference to our students. Billy is a credit to the training of IE and well respected.

Essa Academy Evaluations (continued)

Very interesting course. Has made me think about the mediation in my lessons and has already changed the way that I teach.

As I have completed standard training the basic course has cemented my previous knowledge and will help me deliver IE to students more effectively. Basic IE will help with INA students and I can use the empathy tools for students already identified for IE support. Great course and delivered brilliantly by Billy as always.

An extremely useful training opportunity which can be adapted to a range of subjects and everyday settings relevant to individual children of different ages and abilities, although being primarily aimed at younger children.

I have enjoyed the IE basic course level 1 after having already attended the standard course in April and practised IE with students. This course has reminded me and ensured I have gained further knowledge.

Billy is very knowledgeable and always willing to answer questions. He is extremely passionate about IE and this rubs off on us as his students.

I thoroughly enjoyed the course and definitely learned a lot which I can't wait to implement.

Thank you Billy, even though I will not be directly implementing the instruments, I found the course very helpful. It has been great to have the opportunity to see how they will be used and how my teaching can alter to mediate lessons more effectively.

Very thought-provoking and really made me consider the way in which I interact and deal with students and my own kids. The fact that it didn't feel like five days of face time shows how interesting it was and how engaging it was. Really impressed.

Thank you again Billy for really interesting and informative training. I really enjoyed learning how to teach the IE basic level 1.

As always Billy is so knowledgeable and passionate in his delivery. I learn more each time I take a new course in IE (already done IE 1 and 2 just completed basic 1)

Sample of Evaluations from IE Standard Course June 2011

Billy your skills are so inspiring! You modelled a mediated approach in all of your communication! I particularly appreciated the detail and care you took to model successful delivery of the instruments. I hope I can do a job half as well. Thank you!

Elaine Bannatyne
Deputy Headteacher
Bearsden Academy
Glasgow
Scotland

Both content and delivery excellent. Billy engenders the principles of Mediated Learning in everything he does. I believe everyone left feeling enthusiastic about embarking on I.E. with our student groups, and feeling we had also learned something about ourselves. This was a memorable and highly valued course, with top class instruction and presentation.

Mary Tulley
Principal Teacher
Support for Learning and Behaviour Support.
Our Lady's High School
Motherwell
North Lanarkshire
Scotland

Extremely interesting and very relevant to the work that I do with young people who have issues related to learning and behaviour. The pace of this course was just right over the 5 days and held my interest to the end. I'm looking forward to using the instruments and feel enthusiastic and motivated.

Lyn Forbes
Additional Needs Teacher
South Lanarkshire
Scotland

Evaluations from IE Standard Course delivered to the Psychological Service, Tallaght, Ireland September 2011

The course was excellent, very well delivered. A good blend of practical exercises and theory. Billy was able to constantly come up with examples of how to bridge and generalise the lessons. An excellent teacher, encouraging interaction, welcoming debate and allowing some flexibility in break times to meet the needs of the group. His passion for IE is contagious. We will definitely be implementing this programme in our service, I just hope we can do it justice! Highly recommend Billy as a trainer, he really knows his stuff.

Course was excellent re organisation, delivery & materials. Billy's willingness to share his knowledge & expertise as well as his passion for the benefits of the IE programme were inspirational. I look forward to using IE to improve my practice. Many thanks.

Billy is an excellent facilitator. I found his inclusive approach refreshing and motivating. I would recommend him as a trainer of FIE.

Course was interesting, engaging and relevant. Both the materials and the ideas provided added value for our service.

The course was very informative and interesting. Billy is an excellent facilitator. I found his stories from his experience particularly helpful in seeing how I will apply this to my own work. I am excited about the concepts of MLE and IE, especially the idea of bridging and I am really looking forward to incorporating this into my work. Feuerstein was light years ahead of his game! Thank you!

Billy O'Neill
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TESTIMONIAL

In my opinion, there are learners in colleges today who do not seem to engage in the learning process. This situation troubled me as a Head of Department and I felt there must be an alternative way to help to support these learners.

I attended Billy O'Neill's Instrumental Enrichment (IE) programme recently which provided an excellent opportunity to learn about Prof. Reuven Feuerstein's techniques to help to support our learners by providing them will the skills to enrich their learning and encourage independent learners.

A number of staff in our College have also attended this programme recently and in my own Department two members of staff are using the IE instruments with some of our learners and are achieving very positive results. Learners enjoy using the instruments and are able to see how these skills can support their learning at college and also in everyday life situations.

I would have no hesitation in recommending the IE programme delivered by Billy O'Neill to others. I wish I had known of the many benefits of IE a long time ago!

Catherine Elliott, MEd, BA(Hons)
Head of Department – Business
Borders College

Hi Billy,
Amelia here would you e-mail me the thesis. Again thank you so much for the fantastic! course you delivered. It has given me the tools I have been searching for, for many years. I am really looking forward to using it in class.
Many thanks again

Amelia MacPhail, Lecturer
South Lanarkshire College

Billy trained Teachers and support staff in the Scottish Borders Education Authority from 2005 - 2009.

The Feuerstein Pilot Programme in The Scottish Borders Trainer: Billy O' Neill

The QIE Centre of Strathclyde University, on behalf of the Scottish Executive, carried out an audit of this project after it had been running for only six months. It is highly complimentary of the progress achieved in such a short time.

Beside each category note the % of teachers who felt there had been significant progress.

- Correction of deficient cognitive function 98%
- Acquisition of vocabulary for problem solving 75%
- Production of intrinsic motivation 83%
- Increase in task intrinsic motivation 84%
- Development of insight 83%
- Overcoming cognitive passivity 76%

"It appears that the FIE pupils, with a history of social, emotional or behavioural needs, not only retained what they learned, but also generalised their learning to a new task."

"The FIE trained teachers evidenced a significant shift in attitudes towards learning and learners and reported that they were acting in accordance with their changed understandings.

These teachers support the continuance of the programme and the implementation of a mediated learning approach throughout the schools. They believe that the Feuerstein version of mediated learning is likely to enhance the aims of other initiatives (e.g. A Curriculum for Excellence; Assessment is for Learning) and contribute to National Priorities.
They also believe that the Feuerstein approach offers a coherent framework for accommodating ideas presented in other CPD programmes and, in particular, provides tools for enhancing the abilities of all pupils.

Overall, the findings from the various sources of data indicate that the FIE trained teachers were generally very positive about the impact of their training on professional practice. The effectiveness of the programme was reflected in positive outcomes including raised awareness and reflective practice, particularly in relation to cognitive functions and tackling deficiencies."

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Sample of Evaluations from FIE Basic Course
Borders Education Authority 2007

FEUERSTEIN TRAINING EVALUATION

Training Day 6 – 30 OCT 2007

Level 1: IE Basic group 1 (b)
INSTRUMENT STUDIED : Compare & Discover the Absurd

Please complete this Evaluation Questionnaire by circling the appropriate response to each question.

[1] How did you find the content of the presentation delivered by Billy O'Neil ?

(a) VERY INFORMATIVE (15) (b) INFORMATIVE (1) (c) NOT INFORMATIVE (0)

[2] Did you understand the instrument involved today ?

(a) YES (16) (b) NO (0)

[3] Could you use this instrument to work with pupils ?

(a) YES (16) (b) NO (0)

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS (Please add any further comments in the box below)

A great day really informative and very clear instructions/ideas how the instrument can be used in the classroom. I will use this with S3/4 pupils who are currently experiencing 'barriers'/difficulty with some of the standard material. Thank you!!
Really great Billy – you have explained it clearly and in a way that makes it easy to go back to school and put into practice.
Billy has immense knowledge, compassion & skill. I wish I could take him to school with me everyday!! What a privilege to have him as a trainer.
As usual quite fascinating!!! Lots of opportunities in non-threatening ways to explore connections, language, concepts & understanding of all.
Another enjoyable day
This instrument really makes sense. Will probably use it first, find going through every picture a bit tiresome – but maybe it is necessary.
Interesting as always, Many thanks

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FEUERSTEIN TRAINING EVALUATION

Training Day 5 - 21 SEPT 2007

Level 1:Basic 1 (a)

INSTRUMENT STUDIED : Unit to group

Please complete this Evaluation Questionnaire by circling the appropriate response to each question.

[1] How did you find the content of the presentation delivered by Billy O'Neil ?

(a) VERY INFORMATIVE (18) (b) INFORMATIVE (0) (c) NOT INFORMATIVE (0)

[2] Did you understand the instrument involved today ?

(a) YES (18) (b) NO (0)

[3] Could you use this instrument to work with pupils ?

(a) YES (18) (b) NO (0)

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS (Please add any further comments in the box below)

Really interesting again
So interesting really looking forward to the next session!!
Found a.m session very interesting – can see a more general application for a greater number of children. It's beginning to come together in my mind & I can see links to other aspects of learning. Video very optimistic – great.
Very excited about unit to group. Already identified child who would benefit from this. Fortunately very supportive HT who is going to give me time to work with children.
Can already see how this could help several of my pupils. Thanks.
Great resource and teaching tool
Very interesting and I feel very useable with my class. This helped me see how it can challenge even the high flying level E/F child.
Again, another enjoyable day.
Very inspiring again – I'm very keen to try this out with one or two children with problems in maths.
Pure dead brilliant!!!

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