

Piloting of EUCEBS modules at EUS Microbeacon – Bob's Group

Bob's Group consists of some 40 students with learning and physical disabilities who attend for tuition in literacy, numeracy and basic computing. Many students are unable to read and write effectively but between 6 and 10 read satisfactorily and can master computing skills such as word processing. Late in 2002, some of these able students volunteered to assist in the EUCEBS project.

I felt the best use of this small group was to assist me in the development and refinement of ICT and Numeracy domain material by acting as a test bed for any tasks and questions I prepared. During this period, I worked closely with the Romanian and French partners who were responsible for coordinating work on ICT and Numeracy respectively.

Only 3 of the students were sufficiently numerate to be involved in the development of the Numeracy domain. However, their assistance was invaluable in ensuring questions were clear, meaningful and at an appropriate level. The final specimen test contribution was then passed to our French partner early in 2004 for subsequent development on an interactive basis.

Six students assisted in the testing and tuning of ICT domain material. These students had already achieved basic Scottish Qualifications Authority Certificates in subjects such as Word Processing and were beginning to learn to use e-mail and Internet search engines.

At that stage, they had insufficient skills to tackle European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL) modules.

My approach was to prepare questions, which were practical, topical and of interest to the, mainly young, students involved and, at a lower level than the ECDL. Feedback from the students was invaluable to tune the content and clarity of questions.

This process continued until final comments on ICT material were passed over to the Romanian partner in June 2004.

It is worth noting that one student in the test bed group has since gone on to complete all ECDL modules and another is part way through. In



these cases EUCEBS has acted as a stepping-stone to a further level of certification.

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