



## Collaboration and training is the route to success for the Engineering Diploma

Training for the practitioners of the Southwark and Lambeth consortium\* is part of the Royal Academy of Engineering's programme of support as a key member of the consortium.

The training - developed in collaboration between The Royal Academy of Engineering, Working With Others based at the University of Brighton, and LJ Create - provided 20-30 practitioners with a bespoke tailored package of 8 development days and supported them in the planning, structuring and content of the Diploma in Engineering. The Principle Learning included the integration of Functional Skills in ICT, Maths and English and a focus on the PLTs\*\*, along with assessment and employer engagement.

The Working With Others approach was particularly effective in helping a diverse group of practitioners with varying experiences and backgrounds to come together and quickly begin to perform as an effective unit.

This excellent preparation and confidence building ensures that everyone is ready for the challenges of delivering the Diploma to pupils who will have an equally diverse range of abilities, personality types and learning styles.

Working With Others embeds the importance of self-esteem and confidence, which results in positive pupil engagement, increased pupil attainment and the ability to work collaboratively in groups on problem solving activities and projects.

### Deliver the Diploma with engaging resources

We took the opportunity to visit one of the eight scheduled sessions at the Royal Academy of Engineering headquarters in London. The session started with the teachers working in two groups on the Engineering Diploma curriculum planning. The second session was run by LJ Create and focussed on the use of engaging resources to develop both the teacher's skills, classroom delivery strategies and pupil performance.



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"We couldn't have delivered this training working alone, LJ Create and "Working with Others" have been vital to the success of this project"

Mark Yelland, Project Director  
Royal Academy of Engineering





“Experiencing the Working With Others approach at first hand will enable the practitioners to empathically understand how their students will be feeling about working in groups with people they don’t know. The strategies they have learned will help them to build effective teams very quickly.”

**Dr. Cathy Ota,**  
Director - Working with Others

Using the LJ Create Research and Design Maglev simulator the teachers worked through an exercise on passenger safety. Each group elected a “team leader” and the various members of the group took on different roles just as their students would using the Working with Others strategies.

In the 30 minute session they had to design a Maglev train to a given specification and then crash test it. The results from each team’s project were then presented to the other groups.

The groups thoroughly enjoyed the project and were enthusiastic about the resources “The LJ kit is fantastic. I can’t wait to get the kit in the school and start using it with my pupils” commented one teacher.

The next session was given to developing “Top Teaching Tips” and how you would deliver the lesson with students. PLTS were also discussed and developed from the activities, for example, who showed evidence of performing a certain PLTS outcome, i.e. team worker, creative thinker or a self manager.

### **Enthusiastic training sessions**

The sessions all followed a similar format and the enthusiasm and engagement levels of the teachers was fantastic. They were genuinely engaged throughout the day and it was confirmation that the application of the Working with Others programme and the use of innovative resources within the Engineering Diploma context is a real win-win situation for schools, teachers and their pupils.

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**Mark Yelland, Project Director**  
**Royal Academy of Engineering**

\* Lambeth College, The London Nautical School, Lilian Baylis Technology School, Stockwell Park High School, Lambeth Academy, Southwark College, Kingsdale School, Walworth Academy, St Saviour’s & St Olave’s School, The Charter School, London South Bank University, The Royal Academy of Engineering

\*\* Personal, Learning, Thinking skills

