
A Summary of ELATT

ELATT was established in 1984 to provide IT training to improve opportunities for local unemployed adults in the City Fringe. Our mission is to inspire people to achieve the skills they need to flourish in life and work. We operate from two sites, one in Spitalfields and one on Kingsland Road, Hackney, and both centres are in the heart of deprived neighbourhoods. We currently have 26 staff and help over 600 learners and employers per year. Our main funders are currently the LSC, LDA, London Councils and ESF.

Over the years we have built up valuable community relationships and developed in-depth knowledge of the barriers and needs facing local people and expertise in delivering a service that addresses those needs. Our reputation is based on delivering quality education programmes to excluded adults, and we use our wide funding base to ensure accessibility to the local community, and are well-known particularly for offering IT industry qualifications without charge.

Many of our learners face multiple disadvantages, such as living in some of the most excluded and deprived communities in the UK, speaking English as a second or other language, poor experiences of school and work, and low self-confidence, and our current programmes offer a broad range of support to help address this. We have developed several projects working with refugees and members of the Somali, Kurdish and Bangladeshi community, and dedicated schemes to teach ethnic minority staff working for Small to Medium Enterprises. And whilst IT is embedded into all our projects, life skills development (especially language and literacy) now accounts for around 45% of our income and work.

In twenty-five years of work, ELATT has trained over 6,500 local people in a supportive training environment, working with commitment and energy to provide opportunities for vocational qualifications, work experience, progression on to further or higher education and, ultimately, employment. In 2008-2009, 80% of our learners achieved their qualification aims, and in many cases our success rates were above the national average. These and other achievements led to us being awarded a Grade 2 (Good) at Ofsted Inspection April 2009, a significant achievement for an independent local organisation, and a testament to the commitment dedication of our clients and staff.

ELATT is a Microsoft IT Academy and an Adobe Certified Associate. We are Matrix and Investors in People accredited. Our future plans are to continue to develop our community-outreach to reach the most deprived communities, to diversify our funding base beyond statutory grant income through education bodies, and to research the feasibility of setting up commercial income through a social firm.
