Promoting Active Learning in Essential Skills Numeracy Project 2007
Post-16 Sector, Northern Ireland

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Through presentation, discussion and hands-on numeracy activities, delegates will be encouraged to consider how active learning approaches are being disseminated throughout the post-16 sector in Northern Ireland and how to support tutors in changing their classroom practice. This includes:

- Sustained, research-based staff development
- Demonstration lessons, team teaching and peer observation
- Opportunities for critical reflection
- Collaborative planning and review

Other issues that will be addressed include:

- Working with teacher trainers to incorporate the active learning approaches in their provision
- Encouraging student teachers to use the active learning approaches, at an appropriate level, with their own learners
- Developing quality active learning resources through collaboration

Research and evaluation of the impact of the action research project includes the following:

- Pre and post development questionnaires, including sections on
  - Beliefs on best practice in teaching and learning mathematics
  - Current practice in teaching and learning mathematics
  - Constraints, preventing best practice
- Staff development feedback
- Peer observation feedback
- Learner feedback
- Interviews