

Virtually Pen Green

Developing an online synchronous teaching response for adult learners studying Early Childhood Degree programmes during COVID-19.



Adult education at Pen Green

Our ethos

learning community, practice wisdom, life experience, social justice, individuality

The practical arrangements

study blocks, nourishment, experiential learning, dialogue, social connections

2020!



Adult education at Pen Green in 2020

Data gathering – storytelling and student evaluations

“overall I think the week was really inspiring

“I really like that everyone was in their home and in the background you could see their characters”

“There was less pressure – we didn’t have worries about commuting”

“support has extended to my personal life too, not just help with my assignment”.

“we all realised we were all in the same boat”

“These real moments have connected us in a group – the real world in a virtual world”

“I was able to connect with others when I needed to connect

“As a mother and a manager it eased the pressure and the guilt”

“found it unstressful and personable”

What did we learn?

- Awareness of 'self' (Winnicott, 1960)
- Engaging in 'Pastimes' (Berne, 1964) and interactions
- *"It's virtually Pen Green"*
- Andragogical Isomorphism

Implications...

- Longer time for transitions and tasks
- Created breakout rooms
- Increased opportunities to connection