



## Dee Keane - Pen Portrait

I founded **DKLearning.com** in 2000 to run development programmes and workshops for individuals, groups and organisations. This includes facilitating teams, coach-mentoring individuals, making presentations, and developing materials. Some of my recent work has included co-ordinating the roll-out of a new national qualification framework; training practitioners to expand their skills and creativity as 'learning facilitators'; coaching/ mentoring individuals and supporting organisations to set up programmes; writing materials for sex education in prisons; designing and delivering training in supervision skills; running reflective practice groups.

My professional background is in staff development, management, lecturing, community work and informal education with disadvantaged learners. I believe that emotional intelligence is an important factor in successful learning and I am committed to inclusion and diversity.

My expertise is rooted in almost 20 years' experience, during which I have worked with learners in a wide range of settings – from the international oil industry to local voluntary sector youth groups. I have a post-graduate Diploma in Continuing Education and Training and qualifications in coach-mentoring, training, assessing and youth work. I place a high value on Continuing Professional Development and love being a learner myself.

I am committed to participative learning, using Accelerated Learning methods and addressing diverse learning styles, preferences and intelligences. I am trained in the use of Brain Gym – a series of physical activities designed to integrate brain functions to support learning. I am particularly interested in innovative methods that help adults to learn more effectively and enjoyably. I believe that *learning = change* and that our task as adult educators is to manage that process. I get an enormous buzz out of enabling people to develop and grow!

My publications include: *What's in a Name? Mapping the territory of coaches, mentors and others who facilitate learning* (journal article); *Mentoring – an Effective Practice Reader for Youth Justice Practitioners* with an accompanying In-Service training manual; *Supervision, Coaching and Mentoring* – a resource pack for supervisors; *Mentoring Matters* – a module of independent learning materials for adult educators/ trainers; *The Complete Coach & Mentor Profile – Self-assessment for consistent effectiveness* – a checklist for anyone involved in coach-mentoring.

I am based in Oxford and work throughout the UK and abroad, either solo or with other 'people developers'. My leisure interests include papier-maché art, singing, swimming, salsa dancing and Irish/Scots roots music. I speak basic French and, since visiting Cuba, am determined to learn Spanish.

I also run **Transformation Swimming Oxford**: teaching adults Shaw Method Swimming, which integrates the Alexander Technique with swimming for ease, efficiency and well-being.