

## Eden Alternative UK - September 2020

- 1. Health & Social Care & Eden UK today.** Over the last 6 months, highly challenging circumstances have halted much of the traditional face to face training necessary to drive innovation. As a result, many Provider organisations openly realise and acknowledge that some of the important drivers of innovation are at risk in these conditions, despite the heroic efforts of their people. So, Eden UK has been developing and trialling a range of initiatives with its members to work on line in the current operating circumstances. These have been well received, feedback has been positive and new ideas have been taken on board. Eden can continue to quickly enhance positive cultural innovation and generates huge appeal with prospective residents and also those needing support in their own homes.
- 2. Workforce recognition.** Health and Social Care staff have consistently carried out tremendous work throughout the pandemic, as they had before and as they will do in the future. This has been recognised nationally, and social care staff have been seen to work tirelessly, selflessly and professionally in highly difficult circumstances. Eden acknowledges and celebrates the scale of this contribution right across the sector and has highlighted just some of the many excellent examples brought to our attention by Eden members.
- 3. The fast changing landscape of care.** Recent circumstances have highlighted the urgent need for continuing innovation to meet increasingly complex circumstances and expectations, not just due to some difficult lessons that have been learnt by us as a nation recently, but also in still needing to create a more effective Health and Social Care system fit for the future and one that better serves the people we care about, no matter what.
- 4. Future Vision for Social Care** The development of a Social Care system to be fit for the future has been left to Provider organisations to work out individually. Regulation outcomes has not shown the rate of progress upon innovation as people might expect, and looking at recent CQC stats, it is clear we are not there yet. Eden exists to support Homes to drive a continuous learning culture and specifically address the real challenges of Loneliness, Helplessness and Boredom in any setting.
- 5. Eden Globally.** 30 years on, the Eden purpose remains an important and relevant philosophy for the delivery of change, not just about the highest quality of care, but also about the focus upon wellbeing & quality of life in later life which Eden helps drive, measure and deliver.

6. **Why Eden?** Members in 20 countries say they believe Homes who have implemented the above Eden philosophy have been at a considerable advantage for many reasons; (i) they have a philosophy of care that runs much deeper than having just a great Home, a great environment and a great team, (ii) the goodwill of the teams and the strength of the partnerships of its members has been invaluable working through difficult times and (iii) the continued and heightened focus on supporting a life worth living in later life has come into very sharp focus in recent circumstances. Building meaningful relationships, building and maintaining trust and have a keen sense of maintaining fun in life remains critical regardless of what circumstances we have, regardless of what disabilities we may have and what stage of life we are at. Here we have the opportunity to make the most of every moment we have.
7. **The Eden approach** - The magic of Eden is sharing, building upon an already committed community and enabling people to learn from each other. The experience of face to face training has been tremendously powerful and has created a unique learning opportunity for personal growth and contribution.
8. **Eden Training generally** – Whilst Eden has for 30 years successfully provided face to face (i) regular ‘open’ Eden Associate training courses, (ii) ‘in house’ Eden Associate training courses run by internal staff trained as Eden trainers and (iii) ‘Trainer Intensive’ courses for Care Home Associates to become their own Trainers, Eden has launched a range of tandem on-line services and will also continue to run both ‘on-line’ and ‘face to face’ training as circumstances permit and people prefer.
9. **On line training in parallel.** Although Covid-19 halted face to face training in March, Open Eden Associate courses will be scheduled to run as before, as soon as circumstances permit, across 5 different regions of the UK - London, Sussex /Surrey/ Kent in the South East, West Midlands and Somerset / Devon and Cornwall in the South West.
10. **September 3rd, 2020.** The first ‘open’ Eden Associate on line course will start on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 11am, and will run on line each week for 7 weeks for 1 hour. The next courses will run from 5<sup>th</sup> October, and then 5<sup>th</sup> November. The online version matches the same time commitment of the face to face Eden Associate course will comprise 6 elements:
  - a. Online live 1 hour tutorials running over a 7 whole week span (end to end).
  - b. A 6 section (1 per week) version of the Eden Associate manual
  - c. A series of relevant Eden Video links
  - d. A series of Eden questionnaires to assist learning.
  - e. A series of 6 relevant online discussion topics which will enable participants to interact with each other upon 6 key topics to share their ideas, experience and plans.

11. **Collaboration.** The Eden Alternative has always been a collaborative network, and its strength arises from the collaboration, innovation and reflection by and between its members. We would welcome any thoughts and / or suggestions that you would like to share upon any of the above from your experience working on the front line.
12. **Eden UK Executive team.** The small Eden UK team comprises Geoffrey Cox, as chair, Trainer and CEO, Margot Whittaker, Director and Trainer, June Burgess, Director, Trainer, UK Regional co-ordinator for the last 16 years together with Kelly Boweren and Kathy Smith (administration) based at 11 Plantation Terrace, Dawlish, Devon EX7 9DS (01626 868192). The Eden board and trainers around the country meet regularly via zoom to discuss innovation, work in progress and most importantly the development of the new iterations of Eden Alternative training on-line.
13. **Validation.** Eden Homes and Home care Providers are 'validated' by a process which traditionally has been in person. A system has been developed to carry this online from October 2020.
14. **Recognised Training Provider** - Eden UK is registered as a not for profit CIC and is a Skills for Care accredited training Provider using established materials and proven training models by the experienced Eden Trainers upon its main Eden Associate course. Quality Assurance is monitored through Associate training feedback and via the regular update meetings of Eden Trainers. Eden trainers are committed, skilled and experienced and who enable Eden to continue its excellent work as endorsed by Skills for Care as an annually accredited Training Provider.
15. **2019 Statistics – for your information**
  - a. **244** Associates were trained in 2019 – through its executive team, its current group of Regional and in-house Trainers, Eden UK trained a record number of 244 new Eden Associates in 2019 to add to the existing 2,000 or so current Associates on the Register.
  - b. **13 Associate courses.** In 2019, 13 Associate courses took place in different parts of the country from the North West, the Midlands, the South East and the South West.
  - c. **Eden Intensive training 2019** - Eden UK recently trained more Eden Trainers at an Eden Intensive training course.

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