

GOOD NEWS STORY – RTO

When Brent Fisher first saw his employment consultant he was extremely hesitant about attending any group activities as he could not "tolerate people." However his EC encouraged him to attend a computer basics course, as it was only 2 weeks in duration and also advised him it was a smaller group than what he would expect at TAFE. Plus this would give him some much needed skills for job-searching, if not anything else. So Brent agreed to give it his best and try to stick it out.

When he arrived for training on the first day - he was unmotivated, angry and not wanting to learn. Brent had an aversion to computers and thought of them as being unsafe. He was ready to give up and walk out of the course because he was frustrated and battling some personal barriers. But he persevered and with some guidance from his trainer and overcoming some hurdles, Brent began to keep a day-to-day diary of his training (see below). Brent then started to enjoy learning something new.

At the completion of his course, Brent is now motivated to learn and the course has opened up a whole new world for him, so much so that he is even considering buying his own computer!

Brent is now in a better position as he can utilise his new found skills in job-search and job applications, with the view of finding employment in the future. I think the best part was to see the transformation in his personality from being angry, intolerable and unmotivated to be replaced with something positive such as pride and raised self-confidence. It was such a pleasure to see the smile on his face when he proudly accepted his certificate.

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Brent's
Diary:

Brent Fisher

8/12/09 the first thing I learnt was that just about anybody can use a computer and that in two weeks I will be confident enough to operate a computer. I also for the first time sat in front of a Computer and turned it on which I truly thought I never would do. Another thing I have learnt is about the peripherals of a computer which are items attached to the computer that are printers speakers and scanners. I also have learnt about the keyboard and its different uses. Keith the teacher is not only teaching us about computers but also teaching us about life and living skills which I also lack. I am a person that hates sitting in a classroom all day but this is something I should of done a long time ago.

9/12/09 today we made a file of notes that will be placed into one of my folders. I also learnt about how to make the letters bolder and how to underline certain words and also that I means italics which changes the wording into whatever style you want that I thought was pretty cool. I have also written my own document today which is under Brent doc. I have also learnt how to change the names of my files if need be. And also now know how to drop and drag using the mouse.

10/12/09 today we are learning about the usb2.0 flash disc that the teacher gave us as a present, the usb2.0 flash disc is a storage device also known as a memory key. They are a superior alternative to floppy discs or CDs for easy, compact, fast and reliable data transfer. Almost every new computer has several USB ports. The USB drive simply plugs into one of these ports [previously found on the back but now more common on the front.] No cables, power supplies, or batteries are required. Now we are getting taught how to put our own things we have done on the computer onto our new USB2.0 flash disc. I have also just learnt how to put a border around my pages which looks mad, also learnt how to colour my pages. The next thing now is putting a photo on my document which the teacher just showed me how to do that also looks great. At the start of the week I had no idea what so ever about computers now I am actually thinking about buying my own computer that i never thought I would ever do, but above all the main thing above anything else is that I am coming back next week so I can learn some more.

16/12/09 today Keith showed us how to set up an email address, on our computers today there was an email which we had to respond to by sending one back his way that he received properly. After lunch we sat down and done a spreadsheet with all my phone numbers on it.

17/12/09 today I made myself a make believe work spreadsheet because I don't have a job at the present time. But me just learning to use a computer is a step in the right direction I think. Just knowing how to use a computer now is going to help me in the future gain employment and hopefully stay employed for the rest of my days.