

Promoting change through practitioner led action research in the field of mobile learning:

Practitioner feedback and recommendations

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Brief outline of the MoLeNET programme

- Shared cost mobile learning programme with an **aim to support institutions in the introduction and embedding of mobile technologies for teaching and learning**
 - £6m capital funding initiative funded by the Learning and Skills Council in England in 2007/08, a further £4m for 2008/09, a further £3.5m for 2009/10
 - LSN's role is to support and evaluate the programme (20% shared cost funding model)
 - 3 key roles in each project - Project Manager, Lead Practitioner Researcher and m-champion/s
 - **Over 180 colleges and schools** across England have been involved over the 3 years, some single colleges, some consortia led by a college with multiple partners. The third year also saw the introduction of 8 MoLeNET Academies.
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Over 10,000 learners involved every year

14-19 plus some mature learners

From entry level to level 5

Academic and vocational subject areas

College based and work-based

Between 1500 and 2500 members of staff involved every year

Including teachers, tutors, mentors, learning support assistants, assessors, IT staff, management staff

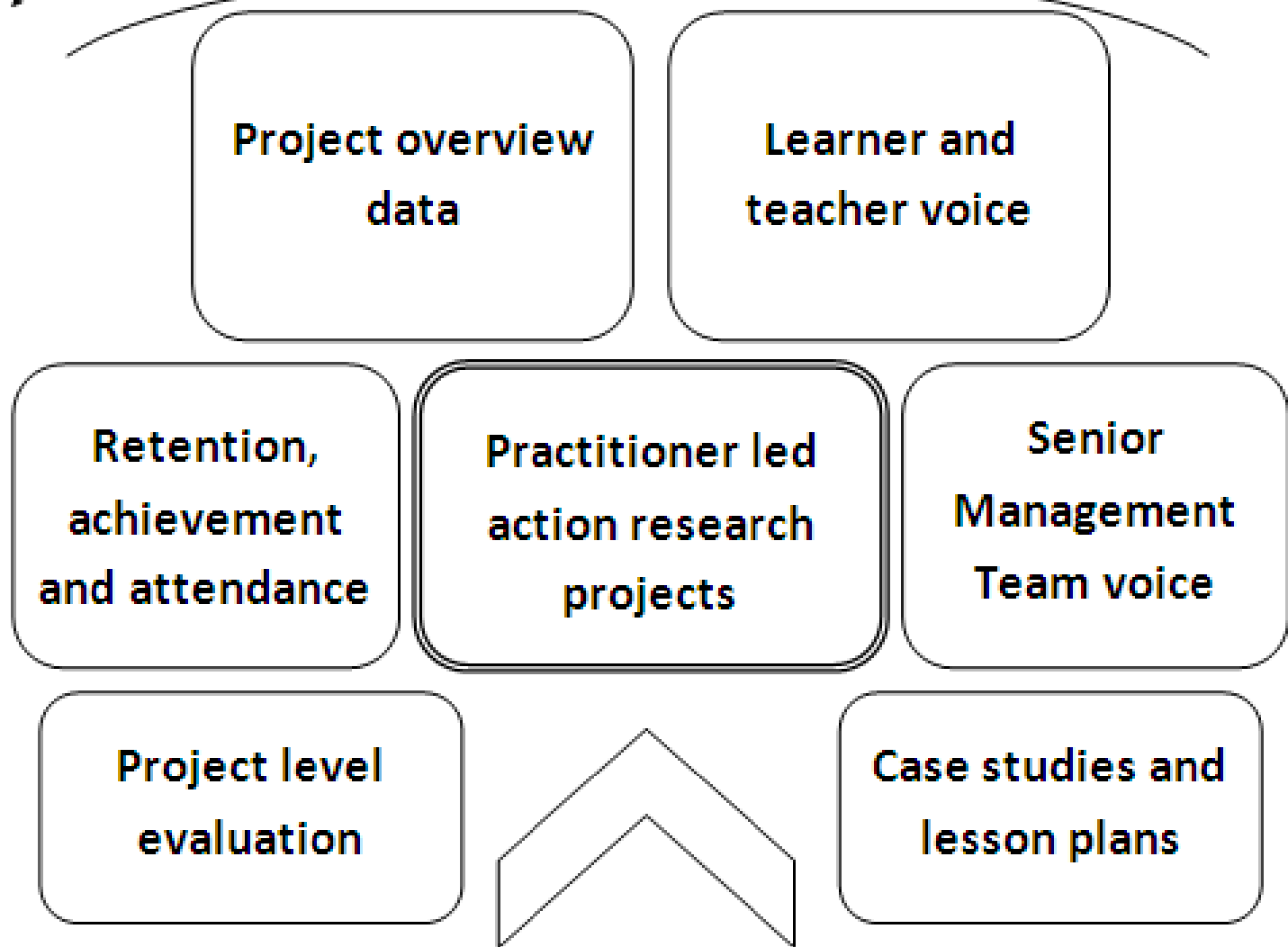


Aims of research and evaluation

- 1 How colleges and consortia partners use mobile learning to improve teaching and learning
 - 2 The impact of mobile learning on learners, teachers and institutions
 - 3 Whether mobile learning can help improve retention, progression and achievement
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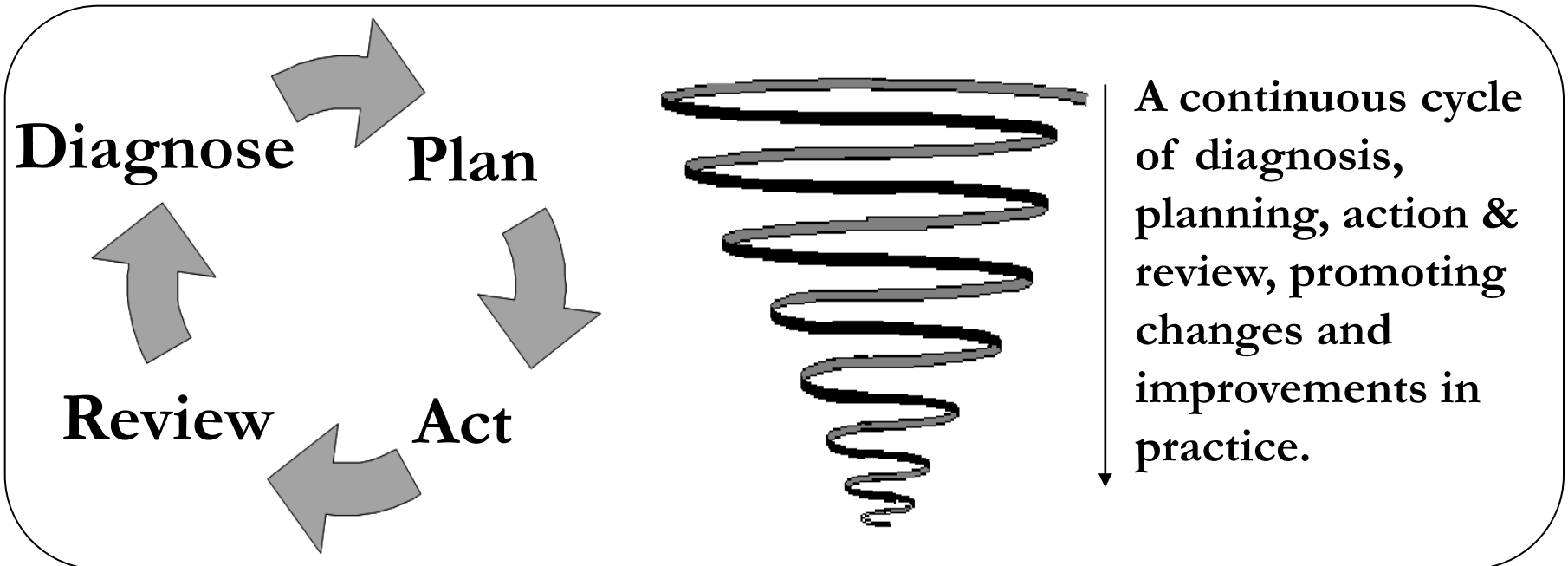
LSN META-ANALYSIS

All project data and findings collated, analysed and synthesised by LSN

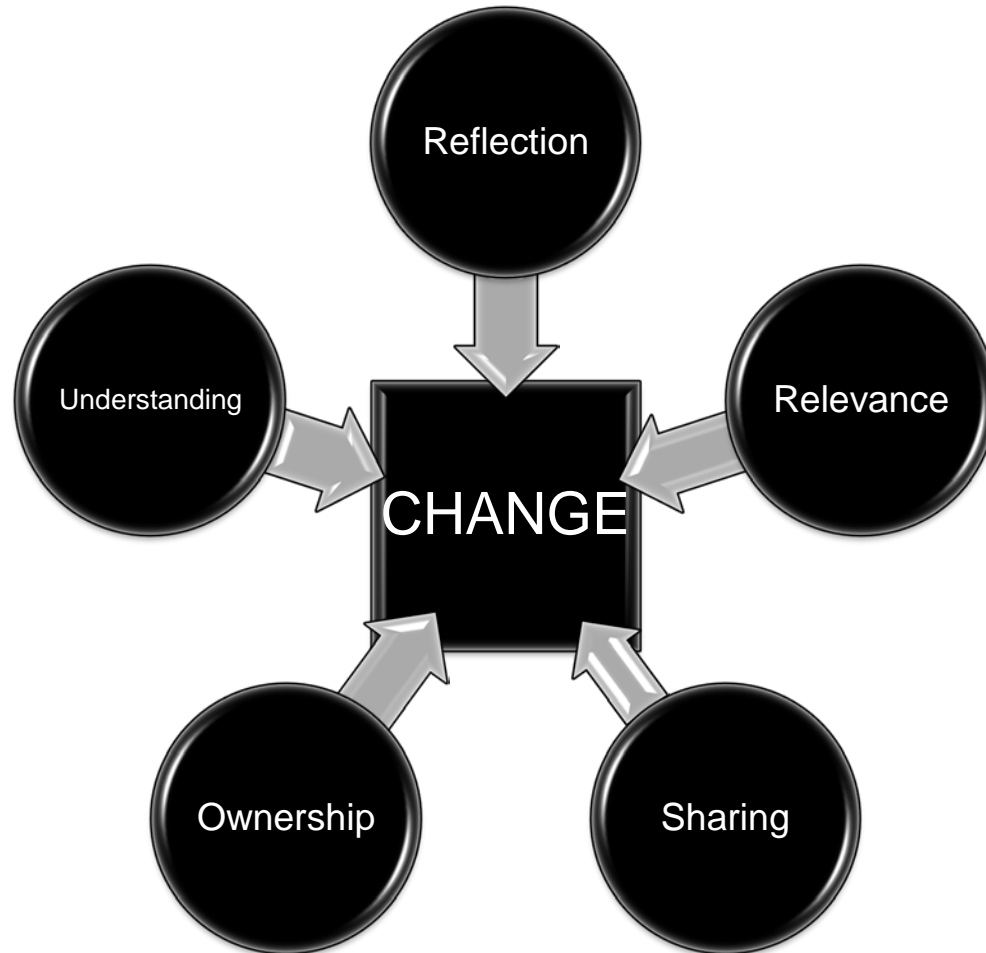


LSN TRAINING AND SUPPORT

“**Action Research**” in this context is described as a research approach with the fundamental aim to help **professionals** (teacher researchers) to **improve practice** but also to **understand change processes**. It uses a cyclical process to diagnose issues for investigation, plan strategies, implement and review them, and reflect upon their findings.



Benefits of action research



Initial stages of the action research

- Informing and engaging participants and stakeholders
 - Sharing responsibilities
 - Gathering initial feedback from participants
 - Communicating progress and findings
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Main part of the research project

- Research methods and tools
- Involving extra people to support the research requirements
- Action research as a two-way process
- Overcoming issues and delays



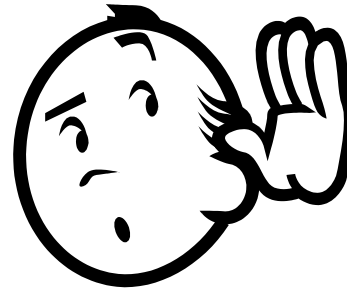
Final stages of the action research

- Analysing and writing up the data
 - Case studies (see www.moleshare.org.uk)
 - Videos (see www.moletv.org.uk)
 - Final report
 - Impact matrix
- Disseminating findings and experiences



What has been the impact of action research in MoLeNET?

- A wealth of research evidence & best practice
 - A range of benefits for the Lead Researcher
 - Opportunities to take risks
 - Better embedding of mobile learning
 - Greater institutional change
 - More senior management support for mlearning
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Implications for future practitioner led action research projects: Lead Practitioner Researcher recommendations



For more information about MoLeNET go to:

www.molenet.org.uk

To find and share resources go to **MoLeShare**

To find and share video go to **MoLeTV**

**To engage with the MoLeNET community of
practice go to **MoLeNET Moodle****

**More information about LSN and the technology for
learning centre**

www.lsnlearning.org.uk
