

Problem Solving and Creative Thinking

The aim of this workshop is to help participants develop a more flexible approach to problem solving. Over the course of the day we will be working through the stages of the problem solving process – this is particularly effective if delegates are using a problem that is real. Therefore before the workshop could you review any problems, opportunities or situations that are causing you concern and choose one that you would like to work on during the workshop.

Course Objectives:

At the end of the course participants will be able to:

1. Explain the stages of systematic problem solving.
2. Identify whether they are left brain or right brain thinkers and recognise the effects this has on their approach to problem solving
3. Demonstrate techniques for identifying and defining problems.
4. Use a number of methods for generating solutions.
5. Apply a structured approach to evaluating ideas.

Course Content:

- Introduction to Problem Solving
 - the difference between creative and analytical thinking
- The Stages of Systematic Problem Solving
- Problem Diagnosis
 - Tools and techniques designed to help explore all facets of a problem
- Generating New Ideas
 - Linear and creative ways to generate solutions
- Evaluating Ideas
 - top five
 - star rating
 - factor analysis