



Coffee Roulette: connect, share, swap

As part of its 'Made for Learning' campaign, this year's Learning at Work Week (May 17-23) aims to remind us of the value of staying connected with other people. It's a critical part of how we learn; by swapping ideas and learning from others.

Clearly, connecting with other people has been something of a challenge over the past year. We've had no shortage of virtual meetings (both formal and informal) but those impromptu lunch trips or chance water cooler encounters, which can prove so valuable and interesting, are still missing from our lives.

Aligned to its campaign sub-theme of 'Connect, share, swap', Learning at Work Week provides an excuse to rectify that. One possibility that springs to mind, if you're keen to get your department talking more and learning from one another, is that this could be the time to have a go at coffee roulette.

Clearly, conversation doesn't have to be confined to this alone (it's merely the opening prompt). These are also valuable opportunities to find out more about colleagues that people might not otherwise speak to much (if at all), to understand what they do and the skills they have. It's a chance to hopefully learn a thing or two from each other, to swap ideas and create valuable new support networks.

Needless to say, if people are reluctant to participate just because they haven't engaged with any learning recently, you can always remind them that the CSL curriculum is just a click away by browsing through the Learning Catalogue on the learning website! And if it does go well, you could always make it a regular thing, running it every month or two.

So, why not give it a go and spin that wheel during Learning at Work Week? After all, unlike real roulette, what have you got to lose?



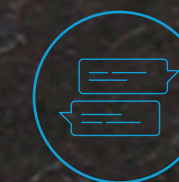
Not heard of it? Well, it's a simple premise



Randomly pair up members of the department



Ask the pair to schedule a virtual coffee with one another (other hot and cold drinks are available!)



Encourage them to share insights from their most recent learning activities – what they learned, what they found most valuable, how they've used what they've learned, etc. – or perhaps even ask them to demonstrate a new-found skill.

