

Prince, Heather ORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6199-4892 and Fletcher, Eric (2020) ASTO (Association of Sail Training Organisations) Theory of Change. In: Association of Sail Training Organisations (ASTO) National Conference, 24 January 2020, Solent University, Southampton, UK. (Unpublished)

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## **ASTO Theory of Change**

# Prof Heather Prince & Dr Eric Fletcher ASTO Conference January 2020









## **Aim**

- Introduction to the ASTO Theory of Change (ToC)
- Which activities in the ToC are the most important? (Diamond Ranking activity)
- How does the ToC influence what you do?

## **ASTO Theory of Change**

### A framework to think about what you do:

- Activities
  - Personal development
  - Skills
  - Social development
- What they learn
- What does 'learning' look like?

(Noble et al., 2017)





Personal development

Skills

Social development

#### Sail training 'boosters'

'Intense / accelerated' experience continuous. residential, can't walk away intensifies

'Peak' experience strong memories creating more lasting impact

'Real' experience actions have real consequences and learning is less abstract

'Risky' experience participants feel trusted with responsibilities; + feet vulnerable, creating greater sense of equality

'Different' experience - new environment, no baggage

'Isolated' experience -participants are more present and able to address normal habits

#### Activities

#### What they learn

Pride / sense of achievement

Self-confidence / self-belief / self-esteem

Self-reliance / independence

Resilience

Self-control / personal discipline

Organisational skills + time management

#### Tangible skills (domestic, sailing, others)

Critical thinking skills

Knowledge of / respect for the environment

#### Value of teamwork + cooperation

Respect for + understanding of others

Expanded horizons

Knowledge of different social groups + ability to bridge social differences

Association of Sail Training Organisations, 2017

#### How it helps

#### Long term outcomes

Higher aspirations

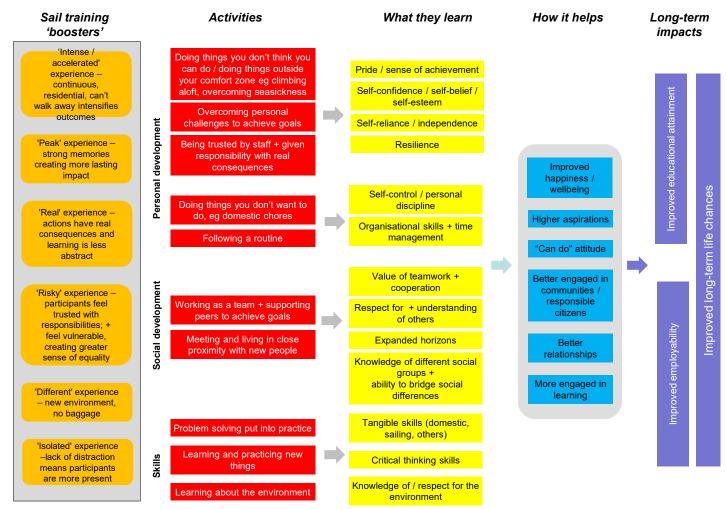
More engaged in learning

"Can do" attitude

Better relationships



#### HOW YOUNG PEOPLE ARE POSITIVELY AFFECTED BY SAIL TRAINING





## ToC activities

### Diamond Ranking:

Consider the ten activities (taken from the ToC) and think about the 'What they learn'. Then rank the activities in order of their significance to the sail training experience.

You have 15 minutes



## ToC activities and staff practice

Using the template provided, consider the activities and then what you currently do and how this might be improved.

Record your thoughts (5 minutes)

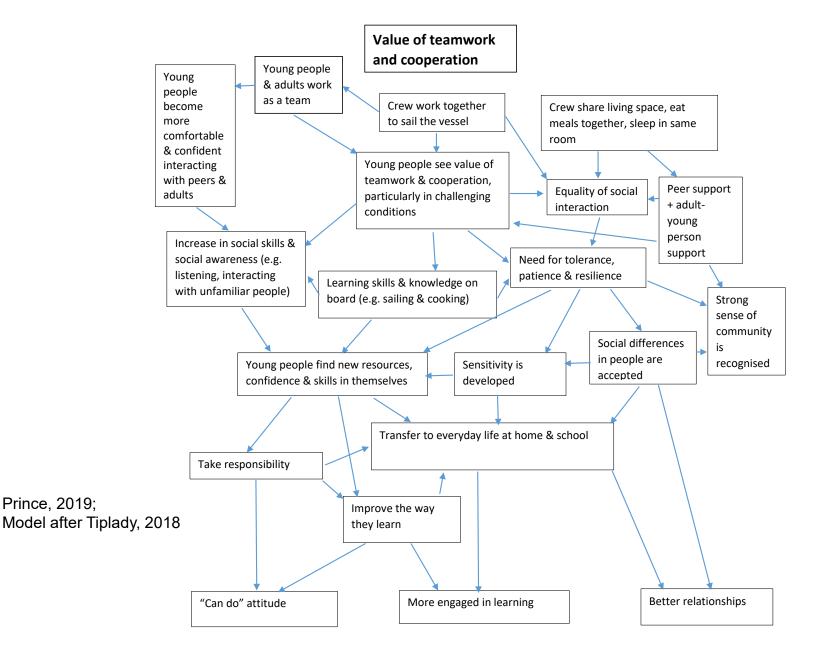
Now discuss with your group (10 minutes)

Be prepared to share your thinking in a debrief



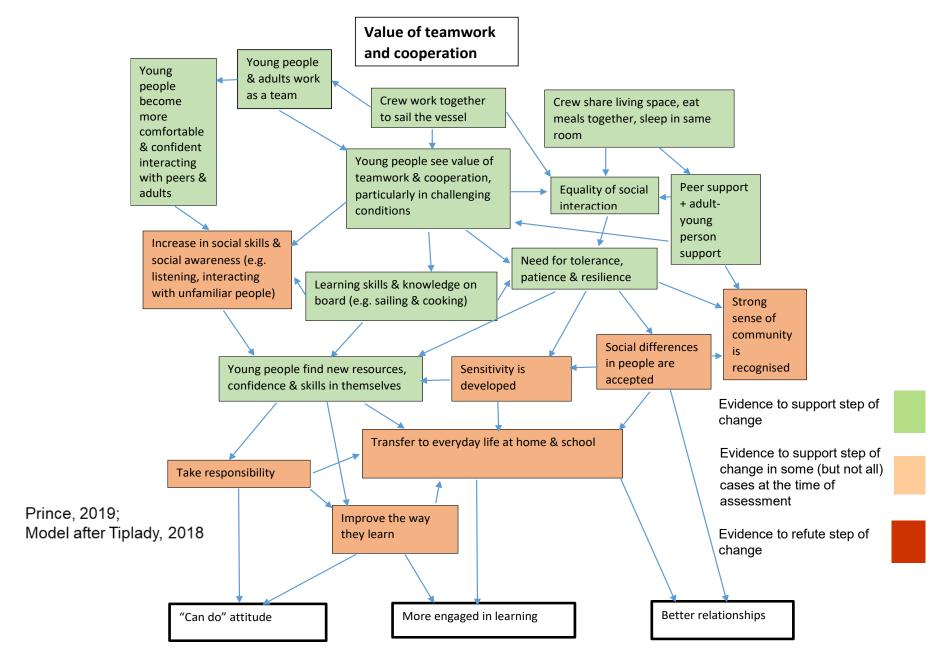
Prince, 2019;

### Example: Steps of change process – sail training





### Example: Steps of change process – sail training



## **Any questions?**

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#### References

Noble, J., Kenley, A. & Patel, S. (2017) *ASTO theory of change, evidence review & measurement framework.* Association of Sail Training Organisations (ASTO) and New Philanthropy Capital (NPC). Available at <a href="https://uksailtraining.org.uk/images/stories/Sailtrainingworksevidence/public-ASTO-Theory-of-Change-measurement-framework.pdf">https://uksailtraining.org.uk/images/stories/Sailtrainingworksevidence/public-ASTO-Theory-of-Change-measurement-framework.pdf</a>
Tiplady, L. (2018) *Impacting on young people's emotional wellbeing through Forest School: The Breeze Project, pilot year.* Research Centre for Learning and Teaching, Newcastle University. Available at <a href="https://www.researchgate.net/publication/328248673">https://www.researchgate.net/publication/328248673</a> Impacting on young people's emotional wellbeing through Forest School The Breeze <a href="Project pilot year">Project pilot year</a>