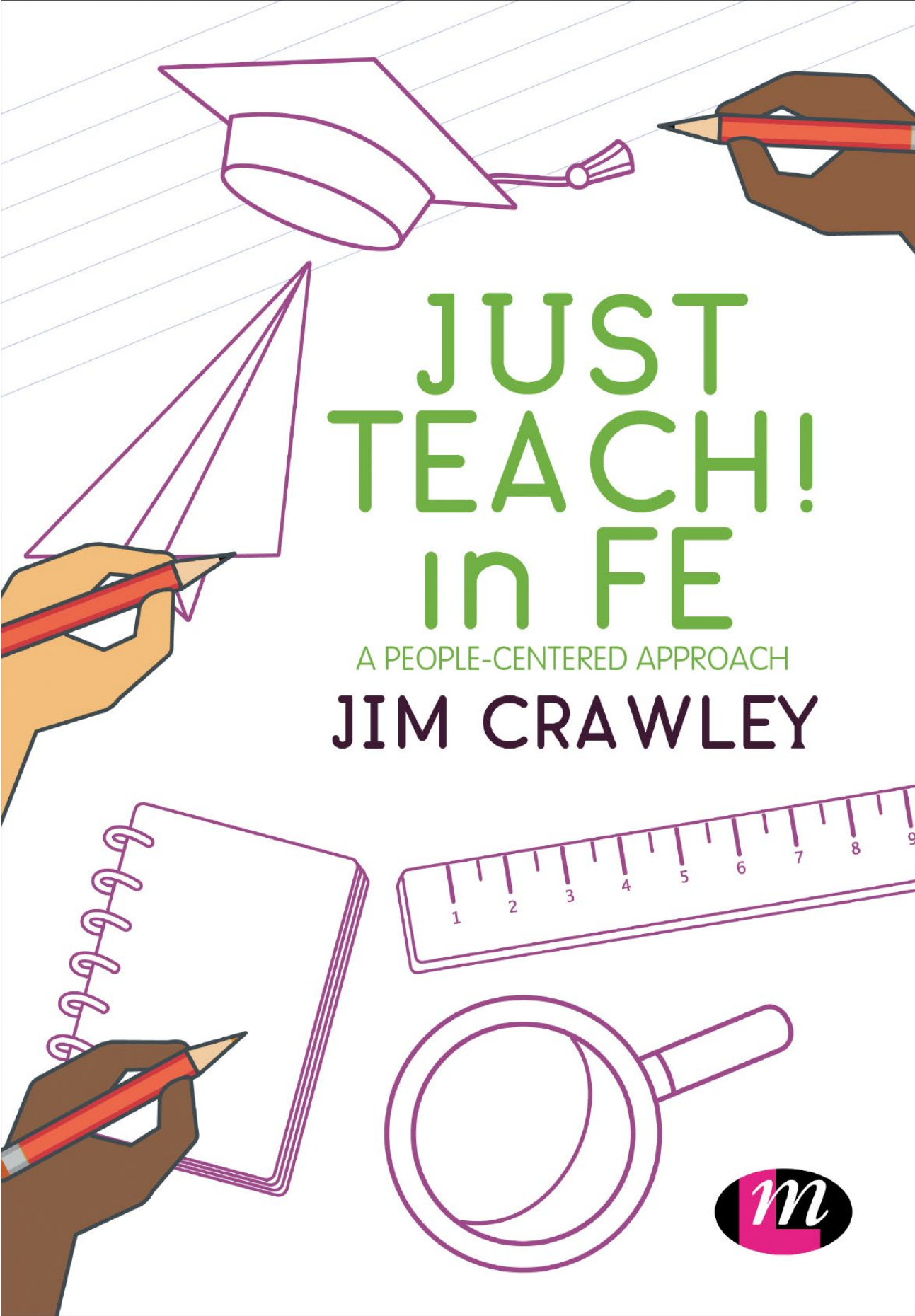

JUST TEACH! in FE

A PEOPLE-CENTERED APPROACH

JIM CRAWLEY

JUST TEACH! in FE

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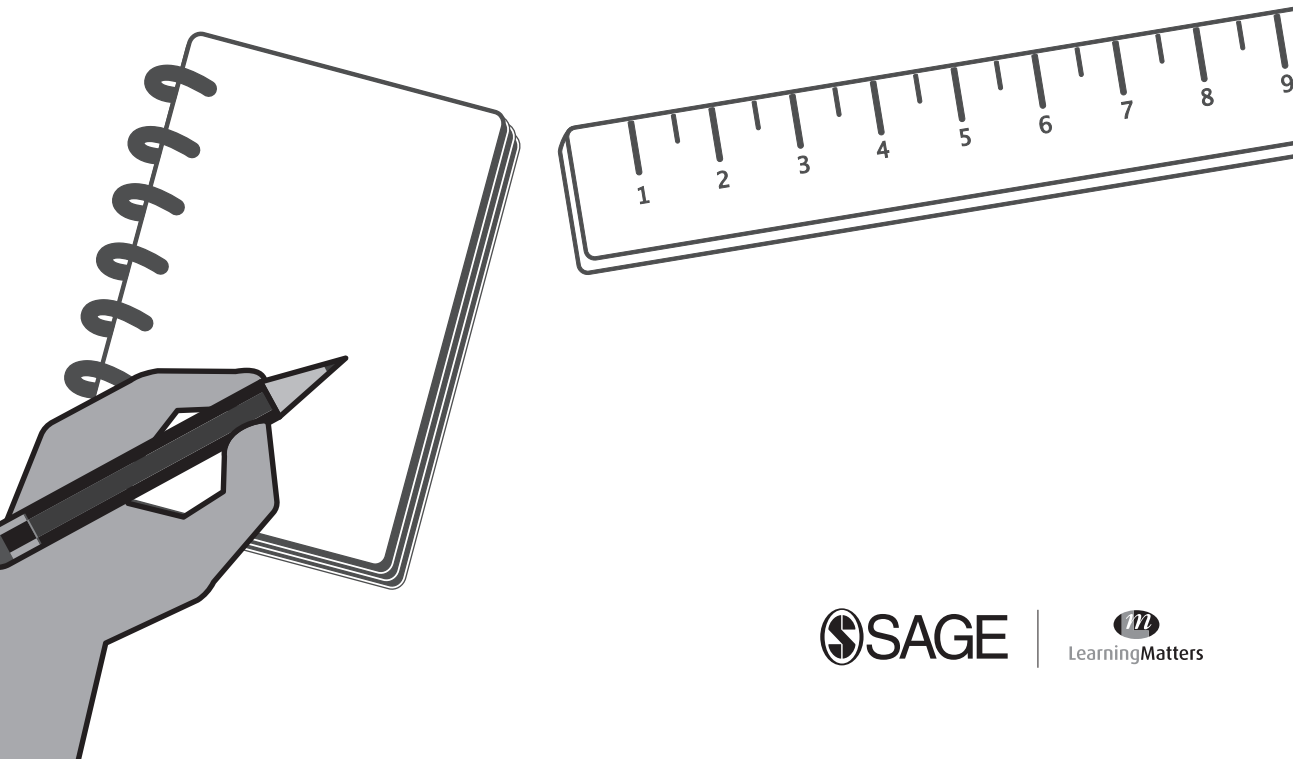

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Dedication

To my eternally patient, beautiful and totally people-centred
Jan who makes every day worthwhile.

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About the author

Jim Crawley has worked for 40 years in and with the Further Education sector, in teacher education, adult and community learning, education studies, professional development and basic skills. He has taught social and life skills, basic skills, on access to HE courses, and was an adult education organiser in the early 1980s. He even taught Computer Science O-Level for a part of one academic year (not well). Jim is still teaching new undergraduates about 'education for change' in Education Studies.

Jim has researched learning technology, teaching and learning and, in particular, teacher education, and he gained his PhD in 2014 after carrying out research into the professional situation of teacher educators in the FE sector. He has been involved in many small research projects with teachers, organisations and funders from FE and Higher Education.

For twelve years Jim co-ordinated the Bath Spa University Post Compulsory teacher education programme, which gained two consecutive outstanding grades in OfSTED Initial Teacher Education (ITE) inspections, and he is currently a part time Education Studies lecturer and a Teaching Fellow at Bath Spa University. Jim is the author of a wide range of articles, papers, reports and conference contributions on topics including Teacher Education, Learning Technology, and Adult and Community Education. He was the chair of the Post-16 Committee of the Universities' Council for the Education of Teachers (UCET) from 2012-15, and is currently also convenor of a national research network for FE teacher educators, called Teacher Education in Lifelong Learning (TELL).

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Thanks to all the students I have taught over the years as they all made a difference to my teaching.

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Thanks also to Amy Thornton. The final version of this book reads and looks much better because of her efforts as my editor.

Glossary

Apprenticeships A means of combining practical training on the job with study in order to gain skills and knowledge in a specific job.

Assertiveness Being able to state your needs and opinions with confidence and coherence in a range of situations.

Autonomy The capacity to make decisions and take action based on one's individual judgement.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) The ongoing learning opportunities which help professionals to remain up to date and to improve their skills, knowledge and understanding.

Digital technology Computer-based products and solutions.

Flipped learning A pedagogical approach where students access online content individually at home before the teaching session, while in-class time is devoted to interactive exercises, projects, or discussions using and applying that content. This is termed 'flipping' the traditional teaching approach.

Ground rules A set of rules for a group to work within, which are generated by the group themselves.

Initial Teacher Education The training and support which is provided for teachers by other teachers to help them develop as education professionals and teaching practitioners, and provide them with an initial teaching qualification.

Lifelong learning Learning for all which takes place throughout the lives of every member of the community.

Ofsted Ofsted is a government, non-ministerial organisation. The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills inspects and regulates services that care for children and young people, and services providing education and skills for learners of all ages.

Pedagogy The practices and processes by which teaching is brought to life.

Performance indicators A means of measuring performance against a set of pre-determined targets.

Social justice The way in which equality and human rights are present in the everyday lives of all people at every level of society.

Social capital The connections between individuals in communities which form networks for joint social action and from which greater trust in that community arises.

Social mobility The ability of individuals, families or groups to move up or down the social ladder in a society, such as moving from working class to middle class.

Social network A dedicated website or other application which enables users to communicate with each other by posting information, comments, messages, images, etc. Examples include Facebook and Twitter.

Sustainable Development Development that meets the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Teaching career The ways in which a teaching professional's work develops and changes for them over an extended period of time, and the effect that has on them.

Teaching methods The tools which are used in teaching sessions to manage and facilitate student learning. These can include practicals, demonstrations, lectures, discussion, games etc.

Teaching professional A teacher working within a set of agreed values, practices, capabilities and philosophies which define and develop how they work as a practitioner.

Teaching resources The items needed when teaching to enable the methods to succeed. These can include computers, raw materials, presentations, handouts, learning programmes etc.

Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) An online system that allows teachers to share educational materials with their students via the web. Examples include Moodle and Blackboard.