



EAST MIDLANDS SKILLS FOR LIFE STRATEGY FORUM BULLETIN

Bulletin 22
November 2004

Newsflash

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Sharing the Skills!

If you find this Bulletin useful and think that a colleague could benefit from knowing more about Skills for Life just email them a copy. Then, if they want to receive it regularly, they can ask to be added to the distribution list.

Resources

Free Publicity Material for Maths Campaign

Building on our 'Numbers in Everything/Hands Up if You Hate Maths' campaign of earlier this year, 'you do the maths' highlights the importance of estimating and detailed calculation in helping people to make sense of their everyday lives. FREE support materials are now

The national strategy for improving adult literacy and numeracy, translated in the East Midlands

Regional News

Skills for Life progress on the 2004 targets

Nationally the target of raising the basic skills of 750,000 adults by 2004 has been met. This reflects the hard work and commitment of all those involved including Learning and Skills Council funded providers, Job Centre Plus and the Prison and Probation Services. In the East Midlands there is still some way to go to be in a position to meet the new challenging targets for 2007. This will mean that all involved need to be even more innovative in engaging and delivering learning opportunities.

LSC Area	2004 Target	Progress To July 2004	% Achieved	2007 Target
Derbyshire	13713	9514	69	11318
Leicestershire	12700	12,969	102	15710
Lincolnshire	8600	6827	79	8900
Northamptonshire	8650	5874	68	9981
Nottinghamshire	19000	11,628	61	16484
TOTAL	62663	46,812	75.8	62393

Skills for Life Quality Initiative 2004-05

Details of the SfLQI, can be found on the SfLQI website www.sflqi.org.uk or contact Chris Donkin (Tel: 07791-698947

Events and Conferences

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Events

Postponed please note new date East Midlands Skills for Life Forum meeting

Skills for Work- ensuring a responsive supply for the delivery of Skills for Life in the Workplace. This event which was due to take place on December 1st has now been postponed until April 5th 2005
For details or to book a place contact Mark Cockayne MCOCKAYNE.GOEM@go-regions.qsi.gov.uk.

Workplace Basic Skills Network – 7th Annual Conference 3rd & 4th February 2005, Chelsea Village, London

The focus of the conference will be on 'Embedding Skills for Life in the Workplace' and will examine how

available for providers to help them promote their local activities for the campaign.

For more information on the campaign or to order materials on-line please visit

www.niace.org.uk/mathsworks.

Skills for Life Materials for Embedded Learning now launched

In September 2004 the first batch of the *Skills for Life* Materials for Embedded Learning were published. The first five teacher reference files are now available to order

Teacher reference files now available to order:

- **Trowel occupations (order ref: embedded/TR)**
- **Social care (order ref: embedded/SC)**
- **Horticulture (order ref: embedded/HO)**
- **Family health (order ref: embedded/FH)**
- **Effective communication for international nurses (order ref: embedded/NU)**

Two further batches of materials are due for release in May 2005 and June 2006. The second batch will include retail, warehousing, catering and hospitality, entry to Employment (E2E) and sports leadership.

DfES Publications on 0845 60 222 60, dfes@prolog.uk.com quoting the codes above.

For more information please visit

email : chris@donkinitex.co.uk) directly. Of particular interest to readers might be:-

The 'Professional Development' Strand

This includes a menu of both leadership and management and professional development opportunities, for staff working at all levels within each organisation, including those delivering key skills. The current list of free *SfLQI* programmes available in the East Midlands includes Leadership and Management training, Key Skills training for Skills for Life teachers, short courses for practitioners and 'training the trainers' courses. A full list of what is available can be found on the *Skills for Life* web site (www.lsc.gov.uk/sflqi). Further programmes will be added to the list as soon as they are arranged.

Contact Elaine Scott the SfLQI Regional Training Organiser 07876-687797 email elaine.scott@edu-co.co.uk to book a place on any of the free courses.

Facilitator Support in the East Midlands

Over 200 Providers across the East Midlands have been offered the support of a locally based facilitator to assist them in addressing the two key aims of the Quality Initiative; (i) continuing support for the development of a professional *Skills for Life* workforce at all levels; (ii) to promote and embed a 'whole organisation' approach to *Skills for Life*. Early feedback from the 2004-05 facilitation support process has been positive. Many providers have reported that the facilitator has helped them to see the bigger picture. The 'whole organisation approach' is helping to ensure that improving the quality of SfL provision is high on the agenda and incorporated into strategic developments.

Literacy and Numeracy 'on the busses' in Northampton

Northamptonshire LSC have been working with Northampton College and the First Bus Company and the Union Learning reps for First Bus; Peter Mehrtens and Dave Wilkins in Northampton from March 2004. Since then 34% of the 150 staff have already been engaged in learning and this number is set to increase as the tutors are now involved in the induction process for new recruits. The LSC initially allocated £5000 for the development of an in depot Learning Centre. This has been

innovative strategies and partnerships have all contributed to create a diverse range of training solutions to meet the needs of different employers. Prices for Network members are £299 for a residential place or £220 non-residential. Non-members can attend at a cost of £350 for a residential place and £245 non-residential.

For further details, please contact either Anne-Marie Mumford on 01524 594282 or a.mumford@lancaster.ac.uk, or Jane Collins on 01524 594282, or j.collins@lancaster.ac.uk.

NRDC Practitioner-led Research Initiative Dissemination Event

Institute of Education – London 7th December 2004.

This event will review the NRDC's practitioner involvement strategy as it has progressed, and to shape the development of second and third rounds of the Practitioner Led Research Initiative beginning January 2005 and 2006. The number of places at the event is limited to only 120.

For details contact Kathryn James at kathryn.james@lancaster.ac.uk or www.literacy.lancs.ac.uk.

Embedding and Integrating Literacy, Language and Numeracy

Wednesday 9 February 2005, Leeds
This conference will consider the following questions how should

the Embedded Learning Portal www.dfes.gov.uk/readwriteplus/embeddedlearning. The Portal contains electronic versions of all the paper-based Materials for Embedded Learning, and additional Interactive practice materials

Success factors in informal learning: Young adults' experience of basic skills

A 6 page interim report from the YALP project can now be downloaded from

www.nrdc.org.uk/uploads/documents/doc_316.pdf.

If you are working with young adults aged 16 to 25, delivering literacy, language and numeracy and wish to get involved with the YALP research, or would like more information, contact a member of the team:

Bethia McNeil Project Officer,
YALP 0116 204 7057

Bethia.mcneil@niace.org.uk
Linda Smith Research Assistant,
YALP 0116 204 4258

You can also visit the project website at

<http://www.niace.org.uk/projects/>.

Summary of all Nationally accredited, fundable ESOL qualifications

To get a summary of all nationally accredited, fundable ESOL qualifications (plus associated presentations) go to the QCA website:

very well received by staff at the depot and in the New Year it is planned to make the centre available to the families of the staff each weekend.

For more information contact Gordon Sergent
gordon.sergent@lsc.gov.uk

Grantham College yes are winners

As part of the National Training Awards, yes recently won the Regional Training Award for their outstanding achievements in the East Midlands. It was one particular scheme involving literacy training for 10 young mothers on the Earlsfield Esatt6e, which earned yes a place in the NTA finals. The women were originally given cash incentives to attend 10 sessions of literacy training, but they have all progressed onto further qualifications or jobs.

For further information please contact Lizzy McCaig on
01476 400282.

New Executive Director for Nottinghamshire Learning and Skills Council

Mick Brown, former Principal of South East Derbyshire College, is the new Executive Director of the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) Nottinghamshire. He took up his post in August 2004.

Opportunities to bid under Nottinghamshire Objective 3 ESF Co-financing Tendering Round 2004 – 2006 but time is running out

Nottinghamshire Learning and Skills Council are currently seeking tenders from organisations interested in delivering Co-financed provision in Nottinghamshire. The Prospectus is available and provides information on the priorities for funding, the target groups, the outputs and the arrangements for making applications and selecting tenders for funding. Information can be found at www.lsc.gov.uk/notts.

Applications must be received by the LSC by 17th December 2004, 12 NOON
Late applications will not be accepted.

Ufi Sure Start pilot in the East Midlands

Ufi are currently exploring how to work more effectively with Sure Start to support parents and carers to get involved in learning. Nationally three pilot projects, planned to run for 8

embedded learning be organised? Do learners prefer such approaches? Is learning effective and how do we convince and attract new learners? NIACE is partnering Northern College and South Yorkshire Skills for Life Professional & Development Network (PDNet) in this participative event which aims to offer opportunities to share experiences and practices, explore issues and identify key messages, including further research and development.

For further information contact Gurjit Kaur on 0116 204 2833 or
gurjit.kaur@niace.org.uk or
www.niace.org.uk/Conferences.

Building learning communities and workplaces: Supporting the potential of learning champions

Monday 13 December 2004

Lakeside Conference Centre, Aston University, Birmingham B4 7ET.

This conference will bring together practice and issues around peer learning champions from the workplace and communities. It will publicise the valuable work done by peer intermediaries and champions, share models and approaches used in different contexts and address some of the issues frequently associated with learning champions schemes and propose practical ways forward.

For further information
www.niace.org.uk/Conferences/Building.htm or contact Gurjit Kaur on 0116 204 2833 or
gurjit.kaur@niace.org.uk.

www.qca.org.uk. Type in 'ESOL Qualifications' in search section, to take you to ESOL section To download 'Update 2004' etc follow the instructions on the screen

NRDC Research Report; English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) - case studies of provision, learners' needs and resources

This new publication has recently been published by the National Research and Development Centre for Adult Literacy and Numeracy and can be downloaded as a PDF document from the NRDC website at www.nrdc.org.uk.

Funding learning for naturalization and citizenship

A factsheet about new language requirements for naturalization/citizenship for LSC-funded provision can be obtained through

www.lsc.gov.uk/National/Documents/SubjectListing/FundingLearning under Guidance click on Basic Skills Factsheet 5.

Choosing health

The recently published Public Health White Paper ("Choosing Health") recognises the importance of health literacy in helping people make informed choices about their health and highlights the role of the Skilled for Health projects along with a

months, have been developed to assess the advantages and disadvantages of three distinct delivery model for the UK online offer/ learndirect courses. In the East Midlands Let's Learn Loughborough will be working with their local SureStart Centre in situated in Queens Road, to work with families to raise standards and motivate learners of all ages through a series of family fun and learning events .

The following regional agencies are leading on national DfES pilots:

- Voluntary and community Sector project
Derwent Living
www.derwent-housing.com
- LDD Pathfinder
Loughborough College, Portland College and HMP Ashwell
- Whole organisation approach
Leicester College
- Skills for Families Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire

National News

Look out in future editions for more information

Whole organisation approaches Pathfinders

This new three-year project will explore how best to introduce literacy, language and numeracy across whole organisations at all levels, ranging from strategic leadership and management to delivery practice. It will develop embedded teaching and learning across a range of different programmes and help more learners to secure both *Skills for Life* and vocational/other qualifications. 25 pathfinder organisations are being selected, ranging from FE colleges to community-based providers. Regular dissemination events will be held and case studies produced to highlight the critical success factors required to achieve a whole organisation approach to *Skills for Life* provision.

Contact Rob Pheasant 07795290684.

Opportunities

Nominate someone for a National Learning Award

This is your chance to nominate someone who you think deserves to be recognised nationally during Adult Learners' week 2005.

There are awards for Individuals, Families and Groups of learners. It's also a great opportunity to enter your project or programme for an 'Opening Doors to Adult Learning' award. Niace are currently looking for creative schemes of learning that have a track record of success for their adult clients. All award winners will receive a framed certificate of achievement and be invited to a national award ceremony in London during Adult Learners' Week, 21-27 May 2005

For more information
www.niace.org.uk/ALW.

ESOL Screening Tools consultation: your views are needed!

The consultation period for the ESOL Screening Tools package will close at the end of November. If you would like to take part in the consultation but do not yet have a copy of the ESOL Screening Tool, please call the DfES Publications Unit on **0845 60 222 60**, quoting reference number **STESOL**.

If you have any further queries relating to the ESOL Screening Tool consultation process please contact Sonya McAnulla on

commitment to expand this programme.

[Copies can be purchased via www.dh.gov.uk.](http://www.dh.gov.uk)

Nottingham Good News from 'Building Bridges: Making Connections'

The new Paul Hamlyn Foundation project 'Building Bridges: Making Connections' is now operating in Nottingham with the broad aim of improving the use of library services by refugees and asylum seekers. The Project Officer Sena Zvonic has now obtained the agreement for the some libraries in the city to offer free space for all Basic Skills groups, including Literacy, Numeracy and ESOL.

[For more information please contact Sena: sena.zvonic@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:sena.zvonic@nottinghamcity.gov.uk) 0115 915 8734.

Useful Links

Adult Basic Skills Strategy Unit
www.dfes.gov.uk/readwriteplus

Lisa Capper ABSSU
Regional Coordinator
lisa.capper@dfes.qsi.gov.uk

Basic Skills Agency
www.basic-skills.co.uk

DfES Lifelong Learning
www.lifelonglearning.co.uk

Get On Campaign
www.dfes.gov.uk/geton

Embedding Skills for Life into vocational qualifications

Through this new three year project the QCA is working with a number of awarding bodies to develop a range of models of literacy, language and numeracy qualifications embedded into vocational qualifications at different levels. These embedded qualifications will be trialed in centres from autumn 2005. Findings will be evaluated and disseminated through case studies, conferences and a web site.

[Contact Caroline Hughes 07881 502 269.](mailto:caroline.hughes@qca.gov.uk)

Convergence of basic and key skills project

This project is led by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority with the aim of securing a single suite of qualifications under a single title to provide a coherent environment for teaching, learning and assessment for learners. The main strands to the project are; Formative and summative assessment, Guidance, Synergy of support activities, Delivery pilot extensions and Harmonisation of funding.

[Contact Terry Smith 07818681932.](mailto:terry.smith@qca.gov.uk)

Skills for Families Phase 2

In September phase two of Skills for Families was launched, with an event in Coventry for all the new pilot projects. Some of the models of delivery piloted in Phase 1 have been mainstreamed through the LSC in the 2004/5 academic year. Guidance on extending and embedding FLLN has been published in three handbooks produced by the Basic Skills Agency.

[www.basic-skills.co.uk.](http://www.basic-skills.co.uk)

Phase 2 is based on 19 Local Authority and Local Learning and Skills Council partnerships and will consist of three strands: Developing local infrastructures for planning and managing FLLN, Developing and testing a range of delivery models

Disseminating effective practice to all LAs and LLSCs, The new models of delivery will extend FLLN in new settings, such as Children's Centres and with new groups, such as fathers and teenage parents. Guidance will also be produced on FLLN for Extended Schools and Children's Centres.

[Contact Sue.Evans@lsc.gov.uk](mailto:sue.evans@lsc.gov.uk) or visit [www.skillsforfamilies.org.uk.](http://www.skillsforfamilies.org.uk)

[sonyam@btl.com.](mailto:sonyam@btl.com)

CPD opportunities

The University of Derby are currently offering
9485 Level 4 Course for Adult Literacy Subject Specialists -New course starting early in New Year - dates and time tbc
9486 Level 4 Course for Adult Numeracy Subject Specialists-New Course starting early in New Year - dates and time tbc
9484 Level 4 Course for ESOL Subject Specialists-Currently being developed.

Level Three courses

Level Two courses - stand alone unit 1 for awareness - raising or whole qualification if appropriate. Can be tailored for individual organisations or run for a group of organisations.

[Please contact Dawn Fisher on 01332 594429 or d.fisher@derby.ac.uk.](mailto:dawn.fisher@derby.ac.uk)

LSC Local contacts

Derbyshire
Eryl Prentice
Eryl.Prentice@lsc.gov.uk
0845 019 4183

Leicestershire
Gill King
gill.king@lsc.gov.uk
0116 228 1870

Lincolnshire and Rutland
Di Pudney
diana.pudney@lsc.gov.uk

LearnDirect

www.learndirect.co.uk

Learning and Skills Council

www.lsc.gov.uk

Learning and Skills Development Agency

www.lsd.gov.uk

National Literacy Trust

www.literacytrust.org.uk

National Research Development Centre for adult literacy, language and numeracy

www.nrdc.org.uk

NIACE (National Institute for Adult and Continuing Education)

www.niace.org.uk

Nottinghamshire Skills for Life Partnership now has a website

www.ns4lp.org.uk/homepage

Qualifications and Curriculum Authority

www.qca.org.uk

Skills for Life Quality Initiative

www.lsc.gov.uk/sflqi

Ufi

www.ufi.com

Workplace Basic Skills Network

www.lanacs.ac.uk/wbsnet

Learning for Living; Developing access to Skills for Life for adults with learning difficulties and/or disabilities
NIACE is leading a major, new DfES-funded development programme, Learning for Living - through six Skills for Life Pathfinder projects across England.

Heading a consortium of key national bodies specialising in different aspects of disability – and working in the community, colleges, prisons and the workplace –

The two and a half year programme – funded by the Adult Basic Skills Strategy Unit at DfES – will run to March 2006.

A website will soon be available. Contact can be made with the project through the Project Manager
joyce.black@niace.org.uk

Embedding Step in to Learning

Between 2004-2006 the Step in to learning approach will be embedded into the professional practice of a range of early year's workers such as staff working in children's centres, childminders, playgroup staff and after school care staff.

Trials will be conducted in nine regional consortia which include Derbyshire & Northamptonshire.

Contact Lisa Capper 07879432224

ICT – as a Skill for Life

New ICT *Skills for Life* Standards have been developed from the ICT user skills National Occupational Standards and can be viewed on the QCA website:

www.qca.org.uk/qualifications/types/2791.html. The ICT *Skills for Life* Standards address Entry 1, 2 & 3 and Levels 1 and 2 with the letter mapping to the existing national Key Skills Standards at Levels 1 and 2. They have been designed to provide for direct progression to the ICT Key Skills qualifications. The plan for the future is that a new innovative test will support both ICT Key Skills and ICT *Skills for Life* qualifications at Levels 1 and 2. These qualifications also contribute towards the achievement of the ITQ – the new Level 2 NVQ.

The plan is to have basic ICT skills established within the *Skills for Life* programme and rolled out, with an appropriate supporting curriculum and qualifications, from September 2005.

01522 508547

Northamptonshire

Gordon Sergent

gordon.sergent@lsc.gov.uk

01604 533031

Nottinghamshire

Elaine Beckford

elaine.beckford@lsc.gov.uk

0115 8720036

If you would like more information about what is planned, or feel you would like to contribute to the developing strategy, please contact DfES at info.ictsfl@dfes.qsi.gov.uk

The Move On Website

The Move On web site – www.move-on.org.uk - provides practice Skills for Life tests, a mini-test, screensavers, learner quizzes, case studies and a wealth of other information which can be downloaded. Four sets of brand new practice tests and new learner quizzes have just been added to the site.

Financial Literacy Appointment.

NIACE, in partnership with Prudential, have appointed Howard Gannaway to the post of Prudential Research Fellow in Financial Education.

Howard will be working in partnership with many other organisations – basic skills providers, CABs and statutory bodies –marshalling good practice to ensure a better case is made for all adult learners.

For more information www.niace.org.uk.

For further information about the East Midlands Skills for Life Strategy Forum, or to contact steering group members approach Mark Cockayne on 0115 971 2702. To receive copies of this monthly bulletin, you can join the email distribution list by [clicking here](#).
This bulletin does not represent the views of the DfES or other organisations in the Skills for Life East Midlands Regional Strategy Forum.