

14-19 NEWSLETTER



Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of the 14-19 South Gloucestershire newsletter. This newsletter will provide updates and information about 14-19 developments both nationally and in South Gloucestershire and we hope you will find it useful.

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What's new?

Adult Literacy and Numeracy in Schools

On-line accredited qualification
Offered at Levels 1 and 2
(Entry level paper based)
Supports GCSE English and Maths
Each qualification worth 12.5 points –
combined equivalent to 1 GCSE Grade B
No portfolio required
Centre approval free – just need training*
Supports 'Study Plus' programme
Great motivator
Good introduction to Functional Skills

Can be used for:

- Gifted and Talented in KS3/4
- As additional qualification for those finding GCSEs difficult
- Post 16 for students who have not achieved GCSE

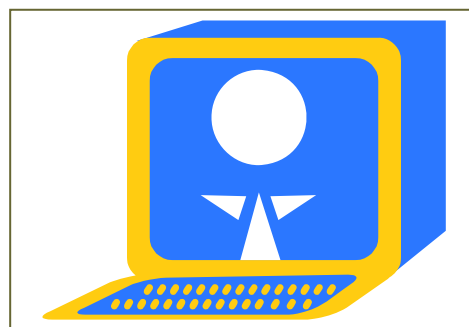
Literacy and Numeracy introductory training already taken place.

On-line installation and administration training needed for centre approval scheduled for 12 January 2007

Grants of up to £1,000 per school towards entry fees

Grants of up to £600 per school towards additional teaching costs and workbooks

Further information available from Pam Hayes



Learner Entitlement

We celebrated the launch of our 14-19 Learner Entitlement Booklet at a conference on 28 November 2006 at the Ramada Grange Hotel.

The Conference, attended by 80 people plus 15 young people, was a huge success and gave the opportunity for discussion about priorities, challenges and ways of ensuring the continued involvement of our young people.

There was also an update about the new Area Wide Prospectus, My Plan 4 Life and Individual Learning Plans.

In producing the LE booklet, consultation took place with learner representatives from our schools. We also offered the opportunity for learners in our schools to design the front cover for this booklet with a cash prize to both the designer and their school.

A total of 13 pieces of artwork were put forward by 22 students from Ridings, Sir Bernard Lovell, Chipping Sodbury and Brimsham Green Schools. The winning entry was provided by Ashley Rhibar-Green from the Ridings High School and at the Conference he was presented with his cheque by Therese Gillespie, Director of Children's Services.

Copies are currently being printed and will be available to schools, parents early next term.

To access Learner Entitlement Document visit South Gloucester 14-19 website under "What's New" - See Useful Websites (Page 4)

"The day was really impressive with a lot of positive ideas. I hope this really makes a difference and has an impact on schooling"

The Gateway Process

Two Partnerships, Kingswood and Concorde, have written their Gateway bids to pilot the first 5 specialised Diplomas in 2008. Thornbury schools are incorporated into the Concorde bid. Both bids have been supported by the LA, LSC and Connexions. Lead institutions in the partnerships and developments were required to meet the criteria to deliver.

The 5 criteria for the Gateway are:

- Collaboration
- Facilities
- Workforce
- Information, advice and guidance - Employer engagement

Deadlines for the Gateway bids is December 11th and Regional panels will assess the proposals by the end of February/early March 2007 when results will be announced and feedback given to local partnerships.

The first 5 Diploma lines specifications will be available from September 2007 and successful consortia will also pilot the functional skills.

There will be another Gateway process in Deember 207.



Winning design by Ashley Rhibar-Green, for front cover of Learner Entitlement Booklet.

Specialised Diplomas

The 14 lines of learning and timelines are:

ICT/ Society, Health and Development/Engineering
/Creative and Media/Construction and the Built
Environment – **First teaching September 2008**

Land-based and environmental/Manufacturing/
Hair & Beauty/Business Administration & Finance/
Hospitality and Catering – **First teaching Sept 2009**

Public Services/Sport and Leisure/Retail/Travel
and Tourism – **First teaching September 2010**

Diplomas available at three levels:

Level 1 is 600 glh equivalent to 4–5 GCSEs

Level 2 is 800 glh equivalent to 5–6 GCSEs

Level 3 is 1080 glh equivalent to 3 A levels

Diplomas comprise 3 elements:

Generic learning – core, common to all diplomas at
given level ensuring that all diploma students
learn generic skills necessary for successful
learning and future employment. This includes
personal learning and thinking skills, an extended
project and functional skills in Maths/English/ICT.
Principal Learning
Additional/specialist learning

The **New Diplomas** have continued to develop since
last summer as they have gone through consultation
processes. The latest specifications can be accessed
at the following websites:

– **Society, Health and Development** (was Health &
Social Care) www.qca.org.uk/17418.html

– **Engineering**
www.qca.org.uk/17416.html

– **Construction and the Built Environment**
www.qca.org.uk/17417.html

– **Creative and Media**
www.qca.org.uk/17420.html

– **ICT**
www.qca.org.uk/1719.html



A follow on combined meeting for all networks is
being planned for March 2007.

We are also currently setting up a Diploma Network
Meeting for ICT which is planned for Tuesday, 30
January, 2007, further details to follow.

Labour Market Information

South Gloucestershire Local Authority Employability Skills Group asked for a South Gloucestershire Labour Market Information document to be produced to help with strategic planning. A small working party have worked with Connexions to produce a document to help Senior managers in Schools with curriculum planning. This has also been made available to School Improvement Partners, Advisers, Careers co-ordinators and Connexions Personal Advisers.

A simplified version was provided for all staff in schools who work directly with young people and a student leaflet developed for current Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 and next year's Year 7. Connexions also funded a parents/carers' leaflet for current Year 9. using these materials will, we believe, help to raise awareness of LMI within the Careers Education programme in schools.

These are available electronically on our website. *See Useful Websites on page 4.*

Forthcoming training/events

23 January, 1.30 – 3.30, Severnside –
Vocational Best Practice Forum: 14-19 Reforms and
Diploma Developments

30 January, 9.30 – 3.30 pm – UBHT, Bristol –
New IT Specialised Diploma Network meeting
involving 4 UAs, Employers, Training Providers.

8 February, 1.30 – 3.30 pm, Severnside –
WRL/Enterprise Best Practice Forum: Workshop by
Tribal on M-Learning and PDAs (Palmtops) to
support learning including Enterprise

15 March, 9.00 – 3.30 pm, BAWA –
CEG: Labour Market Information

Forthcoming workshops:

March (date to be confirmed) – BTEC: update and
moderation of standards

17 July, 9.30 – 3.30 pm, 14-19 Active learning
workshop – Geoff Petty (more details to follow)

Contacts

Kate Howard, 14-19 Strategy Manager
Email: kate.howard@southglos.gov.uk
Tel: 01454 863348

Pam Hayes, 14-19 Vocational Adviser
Email: pam.hayes@southglos.gov.uk
Tel: 01454 868661

Rusty Ansell, Vocational Learning Co-
ordinator
Email: rusty.ansell@filton.ac.uk
Tel: 0117 9092374

Lorraine Morris, 14-19 Project Officer
Email: lorraine.morris@southglos.gov.uk
Tel: 01454 863348

*For further information on any of the events
listed please contact Lorraine Morris*

*Future editions will be available on
our website*

Useful Websites

BTEC Nationals – new specifications for September 2007: www.edexcel.org.uk/nationals

BTEC Training Events: www.edexcel.org.uk/sfc/training/event-listing

South Gloucestershire 14-19 Website: <http://www.learningwithsouthglos.org/post14/index.htm>