

# 14-19 NEWSLETTER



## Welcome

Just before you go off for your Summer break, you might like to have an update on the 14-19 Agenda.

## What's new?



### Spotlight on 14-19 Website

Please take a look at the 'all new' 14-19 website at  
<http://www.learningwithsouthglos.org/post14/index.htm>

This will be regularly updated so please forward anything you feel would be of interest to the 14-19 audience.

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## Inside This Issue

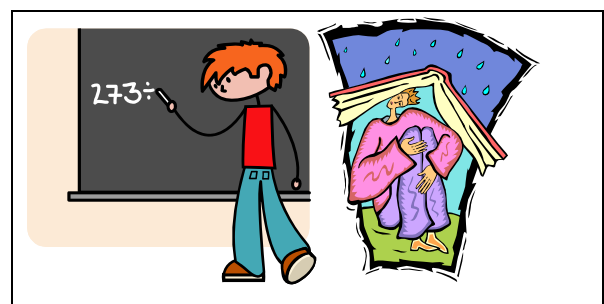
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## Adult Literacy and Numeracy (ALAN) in Schools

ALAN has now been taken up by 10 of our schools and is being well received by students. Most schools are now incorporating this into curriculum plans for next year.

Mangotsfield and Filton have had particular success in running these programmes resulting in many students achieving an additional 'B' grade equivalent GCSE – as well as being a huge motivator.

Any schools still not involved but interested in obtaining further information please contact Pam Hayes (contact details on page 4).



## Learner Entitlement – the next steps

Following the successful launch of the South Gloucestershire Learner Entitlement (LE) in November 2006, the back page of the document now includes priorities identified at the conference.

The document has been printed and we are now looking at ways to implement the LE successfully, to meet the needs of all our learners.

Each school and partnership needs to identify how to disseminate the document and decide how to deliver the priorities outlined. The authority is committed to supporting the delivery of the LE and will continue to support the consultation process over the next year to help address any specific areas for development.

One activity under way is to adapt the entitlement to ensure our learners with learning, development, disability needs and other vulnerable groups, can access the document.

Over the last 12 months it has been rewarding to listen and respond to our learners through the Student Voice Conference, the Learner Entitlement developments, Every Child Matters and Learner Satisfaction Surveys. Our focus this year is to make the LE a reality for all our 14-19 learners and for those of us engaged in the delivery of the 14-19 agenda.

*To access the Learner Entitlement Document visit South Gloucester 14-19 website under "What's New"*



## New Diploma Update

Now known as 'Diplomas' – Diploma marketing resources are being developed in liaison with Connexions. Partnerships are now looking at preparation required to submit for the Gateway 2 process in December for the next 5 Diplomas in:

- Manufacturing
- Hair and Beauty
- Business Administration & Finance
- Hospitality and Catering
- Land-based and environmental

The outline timetable for Gateway 2 is as follows:

Guidance issues – July 2007
Self Assessments submitted to DfES – Early November 2007
Regional Panels and National Moderation – Jan/Feb 2008
Announcement – March 2008

### Why is the Diploma different?

- About education not training
- Employability for life
- Blend of sector and general learning
- Applied settings and contexts
- Composite qualification – credit and unit-based
- Functional Skills, Personal Learning & Thinking Skills
- Collaborative development and delivery
- Style/content different from traditional approach
- Targeted at all students – most able, average and those who need to start at Level 1

### How will the Grading work?

Current suggestions: Level 3 – 6 grades; Level 2 – 4 grades; Level 1 – 3 grades. Definitions to be confirmed. Sample assessment materials for Phase 1 available from September. For consistency of standards, "Chartered Assessors" will be trained at Consortium level to ensure valid and reliable local assessment.

### Functional Skills

These are core to the Diplomas and successful partnerships will be offered training by the LA to deliver ICT, English and Maths as they will need to teach functional skills on Diploma programmes.

### Pilot of Diplomas

The Kingswood Partnership is committed to piloting and delivering all Diplomas at all 3 levels. Other partnerships across the Authority, are working collaboratively to identify what suits their learner needs and curriculum priorities.

## Area Wide Prospectus – Improvements under way



The development of the Area Wide Prospectus (AWP) is about to enter its second phase.

The first year has focused on collecting 14–19 data and looking at the functionality of the site.

The agency developing the site, SCool has led a series of local consultation events and other national and regional seminars to promote and consult on the future requirements for the prospectuses.

We are still committed to a West of England AWP because our young people often travel across authority boundaries to access learning.

The AWP will also be part of the MyPlan4Life web site [www.MyPlan4Life.org.uk](http://www.MyPlan4Life.org.uk)

### The Vision

The aim is to develop the prospectus to support young people and parents/guardians and other users by:

- Providing detailed information in a useful and accessible way so young people can make informed choices for their future as well as encouraging participation post 16
- Including clear information on accredited provision, progression opportunities and academic/applied learning and vocational pathways
- Accessing links to informal learning opportunities and new initiatives such as the introduction of Diplomas
- Providing links to other relevant websites including ConnexionsWestofEngland and Apprenticeships Online; Wex On line; PlanIt; Individual learning Plans
- Integrating with processes to support young people accessing learning through the September Guarantee process
- Involving young people in providing feedback on the development and use of the prospectus

The AWP will also have a strategic function for managers as a curriculum mapping tool – to identify gaps or surplus provision across the authorities

The look and feel of the prospectus is really important. It must be a tool that young people want to use and find easy to use.

The next phase of work, which will continue to involve consultation especially with young people, will be developing the content, structure and design of the prospectus. All organisations involved in managing the prospectus and providing data will also be engaged in consultation events.

We are pleased that we have been able to meet the DfES requirements but want to make this Prospectus a really successful tool which will meet the needs of our young people and that we all will use too.

Lorraine Morris will be helping all our schools and partnerships maintain the site over the next year and will act as a link to the other external agencies working on the prospectus.

## *Forthcoming training/events*

**14-19 Active Learning Workshop:** 17 July 2007, 9.30 - 3.30 pm, delivered by Geoff Petty for all teachers of applied and vocational subjects. Strategies to make teaching more active, and help to raise achievement. Helping teachers develop toolkits to better equip them to deliver all areas of learning. (See website [geoffpetty.com](http://geoffpetty.com))

Further details: [pam.hayes@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:pam.hayes@southglos.gov.uk)

**Psychology network meetings** are being held for all teachers of Psychology during the next academic year. The meetings will be held at:

The Ridings High School - 4.00 - 5.15 pm on:

- Wednesday 26 September 2007
- Wednesday 6 February 2008
- Wednesday 18 June 2008

Further details: [tracey.france@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:tracey.france@southglos.gov.uk)

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## *Useful publications*

Training and Development Guidance for teachers of Diplomas - TDA/LLUK - (<http://www.teach14-19.org>)

Planning and Managing Curriculum Change (14-19) - [enquiries@LSNeducation.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@LSNeducation.org.uk) (50 copies available from Kate Howard).

*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](http://www.edexcel.org.uk/nationals)

**BTEC Training Events:** [www.edexcel.org.uk/sfc/training/event-listing](http://www.edexcel.org.uk/sfc/training/event-listing)

**Regulatory Framework for New Diploma:** <http://www.gca.org.uk/17406.html>

**What is a Diploma leaflet:** <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/14-19/documents/QCA%20Diplomas%20leaflet.pdf>