

Update

March 2010

Update is produced by CEIT (Careers Education and Information Team) at Connexions Leicester Shire. It provides Connexions partners with information on careers education, information provision and related Connexions and IAG news. If you have any queries or suggestions on issues covered in Update please contact CEIT on 0116 261 5923 or email cedit@connexions-leics.org

New Publications from Connexions Leicester Shire

Look out for the following publications which are being updated for Spring 2010. These publications will be available to download from the Library section of our website www.connexions-leics.org/library

WORKWISE

Aimed at students on A level or other level 3 courses who want to enter employment.

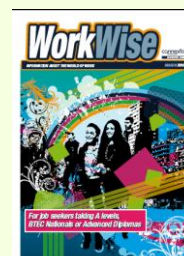
It includes:

- Links to employers' recruitment web pages and other sources of information
- Help with CVs, interview tips and local job search
- A range of other information including apprenticeships, rights at work, and skills employers want

Ideal for general browsing and for use as a resource for careers education programmes.

Supplies will be sent to all 14-18 schools, 6th Form and FE colleges and local Connexions centres this month.

There will be a lesson plan available on the website.



GET SET, WORK!

'Get Set, Work!' is designed to complement the 'Work It' booklet and is aimed at those seeking work related opportunities. 'Get Set, Work!' explains the range of options for work and the differences between jobs, apprenticeships and e2e. The 'Work It' booklet then looks at the practicalities of applying for a job/apprenticeship.



LMI Leaflets

A4 fold-out leaflets containing local labour market information. Particularly useful to teachers delivering diploma subjects, or to use with students considering the diploma route.

Titles available:

- Thinking of a career in Creative and Media (illustrated)
- Thinking of a career in Engineering
- Thinking of a career in Building and Construction
- Thinking of a career in Information Technology
- Thinking of a career in Catering and Hospitality
- Thinking of a career in Finance



If you have any questions about these publications or need to get additional copies, please contact Seema Ragha on 0116 261 5923 email sragha@connexions-leics.org

To download a colour version of this newsletter go to
www.connexions-leics.org/library/staff.asp

Latest Career Mark Success

Congratulations to **Welland Park Community College, Market Harborough** on achieving the Career Mark award.

For further information about how Career Mark can be used to promote, develop and recognise good practice in careers education and work related learning, contact the Careers Education and Information team at Connexions on 0116 261 5920.



New Leicester College Apprenticeship Training Agency

The National Apprenticeship Service has started a new apprenticeship scheme run locally by Leicester College who will employ apprentices and hire them out to 'host' employers within local authorities, schools or children's services. The Level 2 or Level 3 apprentices will be paid a wage of £95 (minimum) and train for an NVQ in a range of occupational areas to include:



- Business Administration or IT
- Childcare or Support Teachers
- Customer Service or Information, Advice and Guidance
- Libraries, Travel and Tourism or Public Services
- Hospitality and Catering
- Health and Social Care
- Construction or Engineering
- Housing
- Creative
- Marketing
- Sport
- Cleaning Services

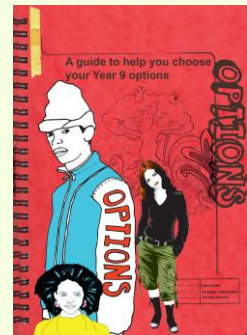


The first intake runs from March 2010 and the scheme is expected to run until July 2013. To apply for a place, 16 to 18 year-olds can upload their CV direct to the Leicester College website at www.leicestercollege.ac.uk who will try to match them to opportunities. Alternatively, current vacancies will be advertised at www.apprenticeships.org.uk and on the Connexions website, go to www.connexions-leics.org/opportunities

A guide to Year 9 Options

A booklet that looks at the range of options available has been distributed to schools and Connexions centres. Sufficient numbers have been sent for each Year 9 student to receive their own copy. It also makes useful reading for Year 7/8 students, teachers and parents. There are sections on:

- Compulsory subjects
- GCSEs
- Diplomas
- Vocationally related qualifications
- NVQs
- Foundation Learning
- Young Apprenticeships
- Helpful resources such as related websites, a 'to do' list, and case studies



Please refer to this booklet at events such as options evenings, and encourage its use in lessons and in individual mentoring work. If you have any questions about this publication or need to get additional copies, please contact Seema Ragha on 0116 261 5923 email sragha@connexions-leics.org

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UCAS East Midlands Higher Education Fair

At Loughborough University Sports Hall

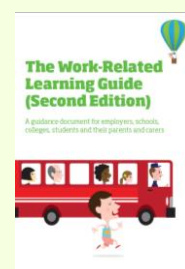
21st and 22nd April 2010



Schools who have registered places for their students at the Higher Education Fair will receive student programmes prior to the event. Look out for these arriving in schools/colleges. For further information about the fair go to <http://www.ucas.com/events/conventions>

Work-related Learning Guide

DCSF have published the second edition of their Work-Related Learning Guide. It includes the latest information on providing work-related learning and work experience and the roles and responsibilities of everyone involved. Additional information on equality and diversity, work-related learning in primary education and health and safety are also included. The guide can be accessed at www.dcsf.gov.uk/14-19/index.cfm?go=site.home&sid=46



DCSF Learning Visit about LeCAP

On 2nd February Connexions Leicester Shire hosted a DCSF 'Learning visit' to share our experiences of developing LeCAP with other Local Authorities.

Leicester and Leicestershire are considered to be at the forefront of common application process developments, being in our 5th year of online applications. Fourteen representatives from as far afield as Cumbria through to West Sussex attended the day and as well as getting hands on experience of our product they heard inputs from Rushey Mead School, Ashby School, Regent College and a personal adviser from Connexions.

All of the speakers were able to emphasise positive outcomes from being involved with LeCAP. These included easier implementation of the September Guarantee; improved tracking and targeting of support to students at risk of becoming NEET; better management information for curriculum planning and not least, a user friendly system for students, including those with learning difficulties.

Comments received from visitors included:

"Good presentations and one of the most useful visits attended"

"A very useful visit and a very impressive system. I am sure information gained today will contribute to our CAP developments"

"Most useful aspect was practical testing of the form online – really interesting and easy to use"

"Most useful aspect was seeing real-life examples of positive school and college buy-in and positive feedback on CAP use"

To download a colour version of this newsletter go to
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Promoting Diplomas for Girls

DCSF has produced a gender equality booklet which promotes the Diploma in Retail Business, and aims to raise girls' interest. It is in a handy CD sized fold-out format. You can download this publication or order copies online at: www.teachernet.gov.uk/publications
Search using ref: DCSF-00027-2010



Useful Websites for Teachers and Careers Coordinators



Training and Development Agency for Schools

<http://www.tda.gov.uk/teachers/iag/ceg.aspx>

Resources within the CIAG section of this website include help in using 14-19 pathways information in one-to-one conversations with students; interactive session materials for CPD; careers-related IAG for teachers, and case studies of careers related IAG in action.



<http://www.teachers.tv/search?q=careers+education>

This website is familiar to many teachers and features resources supplied by real schools and students. It has a wide range of downloadable videos covering such themes as setting up mock interview days; tips on interview coaching, and introducing STEM careers in Science and Maths lessons.

The following websites from recognised organisations come highly recommended. They are up-to-date and free to use.

http://www.history.org.uk/resources/secondary_resources_60.html

Careers resources for History lessons

<http://www.subjectassociations.org.uk/index.php?page=77>

Careers resources for English lessons

http://www.languageswork.org.uk/resources/classroom_activities.aspx

Careers resources for French, includes lesson plans for looking at job adverts and writing CVs

Is your organisation ready to implement the National IAG quality standards?

Learning providers and external IAG providers are responsible for working together under the leadership of the Local Authorities to deliver the National IAG Quality Standards.

Quality standard 10 states *“Staff providing information, advice and guidance are appropriately qualified, work to relevant professional standards and receive continuing professional development.”*

Connexions Training and Assessment Services provide NVQ Advice and Guidance training to a range of partners including schools and colleges, probation service, local authorities and voluntary agencies. A number of staff from schools, colleges, voluntary sector and other statutory services are currently undertaking a range of NVQ training with us.

To find out about accredited and short courses visit our new website: www.connexions-leics.org/ctas

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Re-titling of BTEC level 2 Firsts and BTEC level 3 Nationals

Edexcel has sent out notification of changes to the titling conventions for BTECS. For September 2010 two smaller sized qualifications have been added to BTEC Firsts and Nationals. Alongside this, titles of the existing qualifications have been amended – some acquiring new names. When referring to individual BTEC courses the acronym BTEC will now be placed *before* the level and ‘first’ or ‘national’ are no longer used in the title, for example:

Level 2 BTEC First Certificate in Engineering becomes BTEC level 2 Extended Certificate in Engineering

Generically these qualifications will still be referred to and marketed as BTEC level 2 Firsts and level 3 Nationals. It is recognised that many centres will have already produced their course prospectuses using the old titling. It is important that learners be informed of the revised title for their programme of study at the time of enrolment. The new title will appear on certificates.

The following chart sets out the tariff of credits and guided learning hours (GLH) for each type of BTEC and their equivalence to other qualifications.

Current NQF versions		QCF				
Level	Qualification title	GLH	Qualification title from September 2010	Credits	GLH	Equivalent to
BTEC Level 5 Higher Nationals						
4/5	BTEC Level 5 Higher National Diploma	960	BTEC Level 5 HND	240	960	Foundation Degrees, Dip HE
	BTEC Level 5 Higher National Certificate	600	BTEC Level 4 HNC	120	600	Intermediate level qualifications
BTEC Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Art and Design						
3/4	BTEC Level 3 Foundation Diploma in Art and Design	600	To be confirmed (Levels 3 and 4)	150	600	2 GCE A Levels
BTEC Level 3 Nationals						
3	BTEC Level 3 National Diploma	1080	BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma	180	1080	3 GCE A Levels
	BTEC Level 3 National Certificate	720	BTEC Level 3 Diploma	120	720	2 GCE A Levels
	BTEC Level 3 National Award	360	BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma	60	360	1 GCE A Level
			BTEC Level 3 Certificate	30	180	1 GCE AS Level
BTEC Level 2 Firsts						
2	BTEC Level 2 First Diploma	360	BTEC Level 2 Diploma	60	360	4 GCSEs (A*-C)
	BTEC Level 2 First Certificate	180	BTEC Level 2 Extended Certificate	30	180	2 GCSEs (A*-C)
			BTEC Level 2 Certificate	15	90	1 GCSE (A*-C)
BTEC Level 1 Introductory and Foundation Learning						
1	BTEC Level 1 Introductory Diploma	variable	BTEC Level 1 Certificates, Awards and Diplomas (vocational component of Foundation Learning)	variable	variable	GCSE (D-G)
	BTEC Level 1 Introductory Certificate	variable		variable	variable	GCSE (D-G)

Chart supplied by Edexcel

To download more detailed information about the changes: www.connexions-leics.org/staffroom/default.asp

Any queries for Edexcel should be referred to btec@edexcel.com or the customer services team

on 0844 576 0026

Survey of CPD Needs in Relation to the 14-19 Reforms

Equipping the workforce with the knowledge, understanding and skills to support learners with decisions and transitions has been recognised as a key priority in the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) information, advice and guidance (IAG) strategy. ACEG has been asked to survey its membership on their continuing professional development (CPD) needs, as members of the careers workforce in schools and colleges. The survey is available in hard copy, and can be downloaded from www.aceg.org.uk (user name: admin, password: derwent).



Completed replies should be received by **11 March 2010**, at the address at the end of the survey.

Purchase your Software Licence at a Discount

A letter has been sent out to your organisation from Cascaid informing you that your Kudos/Careerscape/Launchpad licences are due to expire. Although Connexions Leicester Shire will no longer be funding your licences you may still purchase the subscription at a discounted price through us.



Please return your completed order forms by **19th March** to:
Seema Ragha, Connexions Leicester Shire, 6 Millstone Lane, Leicester LE1 5JN

Up-and-coming Training Courses from Connexions Careers Education and Information Team (CEdIT)

One-to-one Skills

4th March 2010 9.30 – 4.00 (Full Day)

Venue: Connexions Leicester Shire 2nd Floor, 6 Millstone Lane, Leicester – Lunch will be provided.

Who will Benefit? Suitable for any person in your school or college who works with young people on a one-to-one basis and would benefit from an introductory training session on one-to-one skills. Particularly useful for TAs, form tutors and subject staff who have a mentoring role with students.

Tutoring for Progression

18th March 2010 9.30 – 4.00 (Full Day)

Venue: Connexions Leicester Shire, 2nd Floor, 6 Millstone Lane, Leicester – Lunch will be provided.

Who will Benefit? This course will be relevant to those who have previously attended our One-to-One course, or anyone working within learning organisations whose role includes planning and reviewing progress with individual students.

Providing Connexions/Careers Information in Schools and Colleges

29th April 2010 Half or full day (TBA)

Venue: Loughborough Connexions Centre, 7 Fennel Street, Loughborough.

Who will Benefit? This course will suit anyone working in a school or college who is involved in:

- Selecting and maintaining careers and Connexions information resources
- Supporting students in finding and using resources
- Embedding use of information resources within their careers education and guidance programme

Should you have any queries or wish to book a place on a course contact **Mandy Orton:** 0116 261 5920
email: morton@connexions-leics.org

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