

SKILLS FOR LIFE

CONFERENCE 2014



Gloucestershire & Wiltshire Partnership

FRIDAY 19 SEPTEMBER
BLUNSDON HOUSE HOTEL, SWINDON

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09.00 REGISTRATION & REFRESHMENTS • MARKETPLACE OPENS

09.30 | **WELCOME** - Wendy Rees (Chair GWP)

09.40 | **KEYNOTE SPEECH** - Catherine Paulson-Ellis (Pre-Employment and Basic Skills Unit, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills)

10.10 | **KEYNOTE SPEECH** - Rosy Belton (Ofsted)

10.30 | **AN OVERVIEW OF ENGLISH AND MATHS FUNCTIONAL SKILLS, GCSE & THE ENGLISH & MATHS AWARDS (QCF)** - Bridget Stait (Curriculum Development Manager SW, Region, FE)

11.00 BREAK

11.15 | **INTERACTIVE MATHS** - Barry Gear (Consultant)

11.45 | **WHERE ARE YOU WITH FUNCTIONAL SKILLS?** - Graham Cook (Education Tutor, Trainer & Consultant)

12.30 LUNCH & MARKETPLACE

13.30 | **WORKSHOPS – SESSION 1**

- Maths - Graham Cook (Education Tutor, Trainer & Consultant)
- English - Annmarie Higgins (Executive Coach, Education and Training Consultant)
- Dyslexia - Jo Bourton (BEST - Bourton Educational Services and Training)
- Equality & Diversity - Dr Pam Carroll & Britt Sawyerr (Wiltshire County Council)

14.40 | **WORKSHOPS – SESSION 2**

- Augmented Reality - Amanda Cooper (Adult Education in Gloucestershire)
- LLDD - Julia Taylor (JISC - RSC SW)
- Challenging Behaviour - Annmarie Higgins (Executive Coach, Education and Training Consultant)
- Ofsted Experiences - Wendy Rees (WTTL) and Julie Bird (Adult Education in Gloucestershire)

15.40 | **CLOSING REMARKS** - Wendy Rees (Chair GWP)

15.45 CONFERENCE CLOSES

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INFORMATION

Introduction

This Skills for Life Conference was initiated by the GWP Skills for Life user group members and will cover the specific areas of English and maths. The aim of the event is to provide information and share models of effective practice which participants will be able to take back into their own organisations. The majority of presentations and workshops will be interactive so be prepared to do some work!

GWP is a network of Skills Funding Agency and EFA funded training providers who deliver in the local authority areas of Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Swindon.

Participants

The event is aimed at:

- English and maths tutors
- Other tutors who integrate English and Maths into their subject teaching
- Skills for Life/functional skills managers
- Other managers whose responsibilities include Skills for Life/functional skills.

Marketplace

The marketplace will be comprised of organisations that provide English and maths software programmes to support the assessment and delivery of English and maths qualifications, as well as awarding organisations and other organisations working in the adult learning sector. Participants will have time both before and during the event to have a walk around the stands.

Workshops

In the afternoon there will be eight different workshops over two sessions, with four workshops in each session. Delegates will be able to attend four workshops over the two sessions. Please make sure you identify which workshops you would like to attend on the booking form. Allocations will be made on a first come, first served basis.

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How to book

Complete the booking form and return it to Julia Falaki, admin@gw-partnership.co.uk,
T: 07786265380. Full contact details are at the foot of the booking form.

Joining instructions will be circulated approximately two weeks before the conference.

Conference fee

The fee to attend is:

GWP members - £75 per person

Non-GWP members - £125 per person

There will be an administration fee of £30 for all cancellations received after 11 September 2014.

Presenters' biographies

Rosy Belton | Ofsted

Rosy is a senior HMI who was recruited to the South West region of Ofsted in November 2013. She first joined Ofsted in 2007 from the Adult Learning Inspectorate and before that, the Training Standards Council. She is a qualified teacher and qualified youth and community worker, holds a diploma in management studies and has a master's degree in culture and information industries. She has held several senior management positions in local authorities and voluntary sector organisations.

She has experience of inspecting in colleges, work-based learning, judicial services, Department for Work and Pensions funded programmes, including Workstep, adult and community learning, joint area reviews of children's services in local authorities, safeguarding and looked after children inspections and children's centres. Her particular areas of expertise are in health, care and public services including early year's education, youth work and care. In addition, Rosy has expertise in preparation for life and work programmes for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. She has led and contributed to many Ofsted survey reports. Rosy also contributed to the development of Youth Offending Team inspections in partnership with HMI Probation.

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Julie Bird | Adult Education in Gloucestershire

Julie spent a number of years working for Gloucestershire County Council Education Dept followed by eight years as a training co-ordinator at Gloscat, supporting trainees in the hairdressing and beauty sector. She then moved to the British Printing Industries Federation (BPIF) where she spent one year as a TEC liaison officer, working nationally, raising the profile of the printing industry to Training and Enterprise Councils around the county followed by seven years as the South West regional business adviser (Training). She then moved to the LSC as basic skills co-ordinator for 3½ years, one year teaching literacy at Gloscat, finally 10 years ago returning to Gloucestershire County Council Adult Education as language, literacy & numeracy manager where she manages a team of tutors teaching literacy, language and numeracy to adults around the county. Since returning to adult education in Gloucestershire she has also managed two successful basic skills ESF projects.

Jo Bourton | BEST – Bourton Educational Services and Training

An independent educator with over 20 years of teaching and training experience in the post-16 sector. Jo originally trained in Herefordshire gaining her PGCE (Education & Training - post-16) and worked in further education, link programmes, work based learning, teacher training, assessment and disability awareness training. She has been based in Devon since 2002 supporting learners with a wide range of disabilities such as dyslexia, autistic spectrum conditions and mental health issues in higher education and the workplace. Jo also specialises in providing training in dyslexia support, mental health support and disability awareness in education and the workplace.

Dr Pam Carroll | Wiltshire County Council

Dr Pam Carroll is the lead professional for Equalities – Commissioning, Performance and School Effectiveness at Wiltshire County Council.

In her role with the local authority, Pam has worked with Wiltshire schools for the past 12 years. Her work was originally to support schools with reference to the Race Relations Amendment Act 2000, and more recently, with the full range of protected characteristics following the passing of the Equality Act 2010. Pam has worked with early years and primary pupils, through to secondary phase, and her work has involved classroom practice, training school staff and trainee teachers, foster carers and social workers in relation to the full range of equalities. Pam's role also includes significant input to supporting schools with the free school meal/pupil premium agenda, and she has delivered extensive training in the equalities-related use of persona dolls. Pam is currently training to be a trainer in the use of therapeutic storywriting with children and young people aged 7-12.

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Graham Cook | Education Tutor, Trainer & Consultant

Graham has 30 years' experience of working in the further and adult education sector. His specific sectors of experience include general and land-based further education colleges, adult and community learning, LEA, secure estates and the military. Graham started his education career as a basic skills English and maths volunteer tutor and has subsequently held numerous professional and management roles. Management experience ranges from co-ordinating English provision in colleges to managing franchised university teacher education programmes as well as LEA adult basic skills provision at county level.

Teaching and tutoring experience has developed into curriculum design, teacher training and education, assessor training, resource writing, and more recently, training and consultancy on both regional and national curriculum support programmes such as LLN and functional skills. Graham has also managed CPD programmes for a regional charity and facilitated regional meetings of English and maths specialists in the South West.

While Graham's specialism is in English and literacy, including specialist dyslexia education, he has also supported maths and numeracy courses for the military up to GCSE level. He has recently become a post-16 professional development accredited lead for NCETM (National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics).

Graham's extensive depth and breadth of education experience, his deep subject knowledge, and his ability to engage and motivate both learners and tutors make him an accomplished and respected trainer and consultant.

Amanda Cooper | Adult Education in Gloucestershire

Amanda is a qualified tutor of ICT and has a degree in information management. Amanda has worked in ACL for nine years and prior to this spent a long time working in educational learning resource centres and academic and public libraries.

At the moment she is working on a European project connected to augmented reality and its potential for delivering engaging experiential learning experiences in the context of adult education.

Barry Gear | Consultant

In 1996 I started teaching auto engineering at North Devon College. During this time I found many of the students' low levels of maths (and English) were creating a barrier to the successful completion of their apprenticeship programme. My focus moved to supporting them with these skills and an immediate increase in achievement resulted. I was asked to widen this model across the whole college, and as key and functional skills coordinator was responsible for introducing functional skills and GCSE delivery to vocational and academic areas.

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During this time I began working with our awarding body to develop functional skills and am now principal moderator and senior examiner. I have also been responsible for development and quality assurance of the progression awards in maths.

I finished teaching at North Devon College in 2011 and as a consultant I am a subject specialist for Ofqual, author and reviewer for a publishing company, and deliver training to learning providers. At present I am working with Learning South West as the lead for the maths enhancement Programme delivering a six-day course to numeracy tutors in order to bring their teaching skills up to GCSE level.

Annamarie Higgins | Executive Coach, Education and Training Consultant

A highly experienced consultant and professional development trainer and facilitator focused predominantly in the post-16 education sector. Annmarie's first role was as a medical microbiologist working for the NHS and private health care. Later she qualified in environmental health where she discovered a passion for teaching and training. Over the past 14 years she has taught maths and numeracy in a range of post-16 settings with a particular skill in engaging 14-19 year-old learners. In addition to teaching, Annmarie has developed numeracy resources and written maths papers for awarding bodies. She is a professional development lead for NCETM and is currently delivering maths enhancement programmes throughout the South West. In conjunction with her teaching career she has experience of a wealth of consultancy positions on numerous national development programmes targeted at quality improvement and professional development for teachers, assessors and managers.

She has a professional, dynamic and engaging style of tutoring, facilitation, and consultancy underpinned by extensive knowledge of the demands of the education sector with a passion for teaching and learning.

Annamarie holds a PGCE and is qualified to master's level in both executive coaching and leadership and management.

Wendy Rees | WTTL

Wendy's management journey began in financial services for Allied Dunbar in Swindon, overseeing a team dealing with compliance issues, before joining her husband Nick in running a driver recruitment agency working with most of the UK's leading distribution companies. In 2003 the opportunity to diversify into transport training arose with the purchase of Devizes based Wttl. Since then the business has expanded to become one of the largest training providers to the logistics sector in the South West. As joint owner Wendy has many roles within the business but the main ones are as company secretary, director of quality assurance and compliance and she also manages all personnel matters.

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Bridget Stait | Pearson Edexcel

Bridget is the regional curriculum development manager for FE in the SW region and has been in this role for seven years. Her role is to support SMT, heads of department, managers and teachers with their curriculum design and discussions to guide with regards to updates, new courses and curriculum development. This covers all Pearson qualifications, from entry level through to higher qualifications and apprenticeships, both academic and vocational.

Julia Taylor | JISC-RSC

Julia Taylor is the accessibility & inclusion e-learning advisor for the Jisc Regional Support Centre South West. She is a qualified classroom and online teacher with more than 20 years' experience in specialist education, as a functional skills and IT teacher. As a result of her work with individuals who experience barriers to mainstream learning she has developed practical skills in the use of technology to provide greater access to educational opportunity and an awareness of how technology can enhance learning experiences and contribute to achievement.

Julia is a certified member of the Association of Learning Technologists and works closely with Jisc TechDis and the Natspec Specialist Colleges in the South West and advises providers across the HE, FE & skills sector on the use of technology to improve their inclusive teaching practice. She has advised library and information services on inclusive induction practices, accessible e-books and platforms and accessing and utilising alternative formats. She is currently involved in a European project developing the potential of mobile and personal devices to support differentiation, personalised learning and independent study. As the Jisc RSC lead advisor for eSafety she developed the Jisc eSafety Infokit and is currently developing this in the context of digital information literacy.