

# MATHS AND ENGLISH CONFERENCE

*Essential Skills for learning and training*



Gloucestershire & Wiltshire Partnership



FRIDAY 14 OCTOBER 2016

EASTWOOD PARK TRAINING AND CONFERENCE CENTRE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

## INFORMATION

### Introduction

In September 2014, GWP held its first Skills for Life conference in Swindon. Following on from the success of the conference, the GWP management group agreed that this would become an annual event.

The aim of the conference is to provide information and share models of effective practice which participants will be able to take back into their own organisations. The workshops are interactive, so be prepared to do some work!

*GWP is a network of Skills Funding Agency and EFA funded training providers who deliver training and learning 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.

### Workshops

In the afternoon there will be six different workshops over two sessions, with three workshops in each session. Delegates will be able to attend one workshop per session. 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.

### Conference fee

The fee to attend is:

GWP members - £100 per person

non-GWP members - £150 per person.

There will be an administration fee of £40 for all cancellations received after Friday 23 September 2016.

### How to book and pay

To book, [click here](#) to go directly to the Eventbrite web page for the event. You can choose to pay directly through Eventbrite or ask to pay by invoice. If you choose to pay by invoice, you will not be charged the Eventbrite fee. If you have any queries regarding booking and/or paying, or cannot access the Eventbrite page, please contact Julia Falaki on 07732691769 or [admin@gw-partnership.co.uk](mailto:admin@gw-partnership.co.uk). An electronic copy of the booking form is available on request. Joining instructions will be circulated approximately 1-2 weeks before the conference.

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## Presenters' biographies

### **Graham Cook** Education tutor, trainer and consultant

Graham has 30 years' experience of working in the further and adult education sector. Graham started his education career as a basic skills English and maths volunteer tutor and has subsequently held numerous professional and management roles. His experience ranges from co-ordinating English provision in colleges to managing franchised university teacher education programmes, LEA adult basic skills provision, 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. 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) and is currently also working as a professional development lead on the GCSE English programme.

### **Annmarie Higgins** Executive coach, education and training consultant

Annmarie is a highly experienced consultant, professional development trainer and facilitator. She holds a PGCE and is qualified to Masters level in both Executive Coaching and Leadership and Management. She has taught maths and numeracy in a range of post-16 settings, and has a particular skill in engaging 14-19 year old learners with her professional, dynamic and engaging style of tutoring. In addition to teaching Annmarie has developed resources and written maths assessment papers for awarding bodies.

She is a professional development lead for NCETM and a consultant for Learning South West, FE Associates and EMCETT. Annmarie has held a wealth of consultancy positions on numerous national development programmes, targeted at quality improvement and professional development across the education sector and NHS.

### **Shona Taylor** Faculty manager for business, professional and foundation studies and quality lead, New College Swindon.

Shona has worked in education for over 25 years, starting out in Early Years Education. She holds a BA (hons) in Educational Practice, QTLS status and qualifications in Leadership and Management. She became a community-based literacy tutor in 2001 and provided *Train the Trainer* courses in literacy and numeracy for NVQ assessors in the workplace. She later moved into the FE sector and continues to champion the need to provide high-quality and accessible English and maths provision for all age groups.

As a teacher educator, Shona delivered across a range of teaching qualifications for New College and has line-managed the Skills for Life and ESOL teams since 2010. Shona currently holds responsibility for the New College English and maths strategy for Functional English and maths and ESOL.

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**Amanda Spanswick** Faculty manager for maths, science and humanities and curriculum development lead at New College Swindon

After starting out her career in scientific publishing, Amanda has worked in education for over 25 years, teaching science in secondary schools before moving to FE. She currently line manages the GCSE English and maths teams and is committed to provision of high-quality flexible provision for all students and promotion of the importance of English and maths. She has a key role in development of the English and maths strategy at New College and currently eats, sleeps and breathes English and maths. Amanda holds responsibility for the New College English and maths strategy for GCSE English and maths.

**Kris Ventris-Field** KVFetc

Kris has over 30 years' experience in adult education and the lifelong learning sector as a teacher, trainer, manager and regional adviser on government-funded literacy and numeracy support programmes. She holds specialist qualifications in literacy and SpLD (Dyslexia), with a current Assessor Practising certificate, and is now a freelance dyslexia and literacy assessor, trainer and practitioner.

She also works a day a week for Read Easy UK as a regional adviser and reading coach trainer in the West Central Region and Gloucestershire. Kris's current work includes carrying out dyslexia assessments and workplace needs assessments, advising employers, parents and schools about being dyslexia-friendly organisations, and supporting university students with study skills. She is a governor of a local primary school with a responsibility for monitoring Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and English.

**Sue Southwood** Professional standards and workforce development, education and training foundation

Sue is a programme manager with responsibility for the Foundation's work on maths, English and learners with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND). She is currently managing the maths and English Functional Skills reform programme. Before joining the Foundation in September 2014, Sue was head of basic skills at NIACE where she worked for nine years. Sue began her career as a literacy and GCSE English teacher for Norfolk County Council. An experienced manager with over 25 years' experience in the sector, Sue has led a variety of national programmes to develop and improve practice and has written several publications.

Prior to joining NIACE, Sue held a number of posts including curriculum manager at City and Islington College, and also spent a year in Spain as an EFL Teacher. Sue also has experience of workplace learning, setting up and managing basic skills at work programmes for Northern Foods, Ford Motor Company and Transport for London.

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## Ideas4Learning

Ideas4Learning brings together the skills and experience of Barbara Nance and Sally Betts, who are well-known for their work within education and training. Working with national educational organisations, providers and businesses from across the sectors, Ideas4Learning provide ideas, inspiration and solutions to make organisations more effective. They provide a range of services to meet the needs of educational providers and businesses. Their core business is the development of technology within teaching and learning, and with backgrounds in education, provide a strong focus on pedagogy as well as teaching the skills to develop and use both technology and software creatively.

## Joanna Jackson

Essential skills manager, adult education in Gloucestershire,  
Gloucestershire County Council

Joanna has been working in the sector since the 1990's locally, regionally and as a national advisor. Initially a literacy and numeracy tutor and family learning tutor in college and community settings, she also devised and delivered tutor training programmes. Joanna worked with FE colleges, schools and Gloucestershire County Council to embed Family Literacy, Language and Numeracy (FLLN) programmes across the county. Working opportunities arose in Bristol, developing Family Learning in the north of the city, and working on joint initiatives with the EAZ. She returned to Gloucestershire to create and implement a Family Learning strategy for the county, working in close liaison with the economic development team and Gloucester EAZ, growing a team of skilled professionals to deliver Skills for Life and family programmes within the adult education service, and establishing successful local and regional partnership forums. Further initiatives include Pathfinder, Skills for Life and Skills for Families, training and development for the introduction of accreditation routes (National Test and Functional Skills), NCETM, and national Family Learning and FLLN advisor.

Currently, Joanna's role as essential skills manager for Adult Education in Gloucestershire encompasses both strategic and operational development of maths, English, IT, ESOL-related programmes and Family Learning, ensuring wider access and participation through partnerships with a wide range of key stake-holders including the DWP, the armed services, schools, Children Centre Commissioners, commissioning services, library services, housing associations, family intervention services, refugees, and third and voluntary sectors.

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## Sponsors

### Prospect Training Services

With over 20 years of experience providing creative and engaging learning solutions to thousands of users, Prospect Training Services (PTS) has amassed the expertise to become industry leaders. At the heart of what PTS does is the desire to equip learners with essential skills for day-to-day life, delivered with interactive real-world scenarios that make learning seem both relevant, and enjoyable. The company delivers training across the age spectrum, from alternative curriculum in schools to SFA and EFA contracts locally, regionally and nationally applied. PTS provides a number of programmes in Europe and America following a blended-learning delivery model or fully interactive and online.

The digital division produces apps, websites and high-quality interactive eLearning courses that are mapped to accredited standards for both the public and private sector.

Our **Functional Skills maths and English** programmes provide a blended-learning delivery model, from Entry Level 3 to Level 1. They are written by our team of experts to be accessible, inclusive and non-discriminatory to suit a wide range of learners and include a variety of realistic contexts, scenarios and problems. Around 1500 students having now benefited from a PTS eLearning course. Call us today for a free demonstration on 01452 886 888.

iObserve is a unique observation application, available for your tablet, Windows PC or Mac. Dubbed an 'educational game-changer' by Ofsted, iObserve was created to support the assessment and observation functions within the education sector. By allowing users to record practical assessments and interviews, either of their candidates or themselves, and time-stamp where criteria has been met within the recording, iObserve has saved time and money across a variety of subjects and sectors. It has also been used in sales and HR environments.

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