

Education Update - New Diplomas

One of the aims of this newsletter is to keep you up to date with changes in education that might affect you as an employer.

The Diploma is a new qualification that schools and colleges will be offering starting in September 2008.

Employers have taken the lead in designing the content of the Diplomas which aim to bridge the divide between vocational and academic education. A minimum of 10 days work experience will be required at each level of the Diploma.

Sir Alan Jones, Chairman of Toyota said: "The 14-19 Diplomas provide the opportunity for Employers to have a clear partnership route to ensure a stimulating curriculum that truly matches their needs. Equally students have the opportunity to study a range of subjects knowing they will be equipped to match the requirements of employers"

Work experience will be a key component of the new Diploma

The first subjects to be launched in 2008 are:

- Information and Communication Technology
- Society Health and Development
- Engineering
- Creative and Media
- Construction and Built Environment

For more information see www.qca.org.uk/11-19reform/

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Enfield Work Experience

Employers' Newsletter

Welcome to our first newsletter designed for you, the employers who generously provide work experience for students in Enfield.

We wanted to find a way to keep in touch so that you could see what other businesses in Enfield are doing and how the students benefit from the work experience you provide and generally keep you up to date with any new developments.

We want to make this your newsletter, so please feel free to get in touch with us to share your story or to let us know the sort of topics you would like to see covered here.

If you want to contribute a story or have any ideas or suggestions for the newsletter please contact us:

Phone 020 8443 4252 or email info@enfield-workex.org.uk



A student on work experience at Peacocks Stores

Work Experience Works!

When a small group of Business Studies students from Enfield College were going on work experience, their tutor told them it would enhance their studies, and might also provide them with a useful reference from the employer.



This student was offered a junior management position by the employer

However this group of students surpassed themselves and two of the students were offered jobs by their employers while they were on their work placements.

Continued overleaf

Congratulations!
You provided over 3,600 work placements In 2006



Work Experience Works! Contd

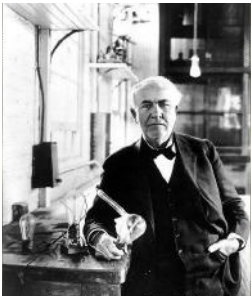


Enfield College students in the Mayor's Office

The students were presented with certificates at the Civic Centre by the Mayor of Enfield, Bill Price

Enfield's Industrial Heritage

The Mayor gave the students a brief history of Enfield's industrial heritage. Many important inventions had been made in Enfield including the diode valve invented by Professor Ambrose Fleming. Ambrose Fleming School was built in his honour in Hertford Road and is now the site of Enfield College.



Professor Ambrose Fleming, Enfield resident and inventor of the diode valve



What is Extended Work Experience?

Most employers are used to the regular two week work placements for students.

Extended work experience is for selected students aged 15/16 who are having difficulties at school. They may have become disaffected or are having trouble coping with the full range of curriculum subjects.

With extended work experience the student combines school work and work experience, usually over a period of 12 weeks.

The student usually attends their work placement for one or more days a week, as agreed with the employer, and go to school on the other days. The school carries out progress re-

Extended Work Experience Contd

One student on extended work experience said that quite a few students his age had dropped out of school and were doing nothing when they could really benefit from the opportunities of an extended work placement

views with the student at regular intervals. Extended work experience has produced some really good results - many students have gained new confidence and maturity which have helped them to find employment, continue their studies at school or take up training.

If you are interested in offering extended work experience please give Karen a call on 020 8443 4252 or email karen@enfieldworkex.org.uk

M&S Research Findings

- 84% of staff caring for people on work experience said they had learned new skills.
- 42% of the staff said they had more confidence to take on new responsibilities
- 24% felt that their job was more worthwhile

How to Boost Staff Morale



Contributing to the local community can also help your own staff as Marks and Spencers recently proved.

In 2004 Marks & Spencers ran a programme called 'Marks & Starts'. This gave 2,500 disadvantaged people work experience at the company. The disadvantaged included the homeless, disabled and the young unemployed.

After a year they carried out research on the staff involved in the programme. The findings are shown in the box on the left. This confirms previous research that taking part in community social responsibility (CSR) can increase the skills, motivation and morale of your own staff.

For more information about CSR and Business in the Community see www.csr.gov.uk or www.bitc.org.uk