

ACL update no 23

Dear All

Apologies for no update last week. It has been a quiet week for updates coming out of HOLEX, but I have included the previous week's news in case of interest.

As we have said in previous updates, if you come across anything that you think would benefit other providers, please do send it in to Wendy.Scott2@hants.gov.uk for publishing in a future update.

Please do share relevant articles with your centre and/or teaching staff.

If we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to get in touch

Many thanks
Sue Muldowney
Development Manager
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1. Multimedia Consent Form (attached): For all online and blended courses learners will need to complete a multimedia consent form. We do not require these to be returned to Hampshire Achieves, but you may be asked to provide evidence of them at a compliance or audit visit. Accessible on VLE or as an appendix in Internet & e-Safety policy.
2. How extremists are using COVID-19 to promote disinformation, misinformation, and conspiracy theories, see attached briefing note for Schools and Further Education providers.
3. VLE resources: Do log on and have a look at the latest resources, including the [tutor handbook](#) which includes a section on Online Delivery.

4. CPD: For tutors new to online delivery we recommend the following webinars from ETF. Each webinar is an hour long and has links to additional independent learning.

- [Meeting the online accessibility needs of all our learners.](#)
- [Adapting content quickly to deliver online.](#)
- [Making the most of online learning.](#)
- [Making webinars more inclusive.](#)

Upcoming CPD Events (virtual):

Safeguarding Adult Learners (Refresher) 14th October 1.30-3pm
29th Oct 7-8.30pm
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/119443210859> (select 1 date only)

Recognising Outstanding Teaching 23rd October 10-11am
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/119443816671>

Principles of Online Learning 17th November 3-4pm
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/119443941043>

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#### **ACL updates from HOLEX:**

1. Responding to queries from HOLEX partners Sue Pember confirmed the Government guidance of the 18<sup>th</sup> September still stands, and the PM speech makes it clear that educational settings including AE are open.

What is important is that you have done a risk assessment and you are adhering to the social distance rules in educational settings guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-further-education-provision/what-fe-colleges-and-providers-will-need-to-do-from-the-start-of-the-2020-autumn-term>

2. NHS Covid-19 App and guidance for education settings

The following article has this week been included in both the Minister Keegan's weekly email and the ESFA weekly bulletin to the sector.

*The App will help to control the spread of the virus; this cutting-edge technology allows Further Education provider staff, as well as students aged 16 and over to identify if they have been in contact with someone who has tested positive with coronavirus.*

To support further education leaders and staff the DfE have published [‘Use of the NHS COVID-19 app in schools and further education colleges’](#) guidance about how the NHS Covid-19 App will work within educational settings. Please take time to familiarise yourselves with the guidance, how it will work for students and staff within individual settings and how it complements existing processes to respond to any infection, as set out in the current [further education guidance for the autumn term](#).

In addition, the Department of Health and Social Care have issued guidance which provides further detail on [Maintaining records of staff, customers and visitors to support NHS Test and Trace](#) for some sectors which maybe relevant to your setting.

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Wednesday last week, The Prime Minister [made a speech](#) outlining significant progress for the National Skills Fund and other changes to Further and Higher Education Provision and Funding.

“My message today is that at every stage of your life, this government will help you get the skills you need.”

Employer led Bootcamps

The speech detailed the launch of our new Bootcamps, to support local regions and employers to fill in-demand digital vacancies. The information gathered through these Bootcamps will also help inform the design and delivery of the National Skills Fund.

The Bootcamps are flexible courses, giving people the opportunity to build up their digital skills and fast-track to an interview with a local employer.

We are continuing to build on the research and engagement that we have done through the National Retraining Scheme, as we continue to work with employers to design and deliver the Bootcamps.

Employer led Bootcamps will be available in specific local areas for adults aged 19 and above, while we trial the most impactful way to deliver them.

We’re launching the Bootcamps in six areas initially focusing on digital skills:

Current live areas:

- [The West Midlands](#)

Thursday 8th October

- [Greater Manchester](#) and [Lancashire](#)
- [Liverpool City Region](#)

Going live in Winter 2020/21:

- Leeds City Region
- Heart of the South West
- Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire

The Prime Minister also announced that we would expand out Bootcamps into other sectors and to further areas around the country next year.

Level 3 Funding Through the National Skills Fund

The speech also outlined a targeted expansion of Level 3 funding for adults aged 24 and above, funded through the National Skills Fund.

We will target this Level 3 entitlement at subjects and qualifications with economic value and the strongest alignment with government priorities, to ensure the best possible returns for individuals, employers and the nation.

Funding for this offer will be available within the next financial year. It will be up to providers to decide whether and how soon to put on more Level 3 provision, but we will be encouraging them to do so as soon as possible.

As always, we are keen to continue to engage with providers and other stakeholders as we continue to develop the fund. If you would like to contact us about the speech, or any aspect of the National Skills Fund, please contact [our mailbox](#).

The Skills Toolkit

Alongside the speech, the government also announced the expansion of [The Skills Toolkit](#).

As we've highlighted in previous editions of this newsletter The Skills Toolkit provides online access to free, high-quality courses to help people build up their skills, progress in work and boost job prospects.

Since the platform was launched in April, it's had over a million page views and tens of thousands of course starts.

The expansion of The Skills Toolkit means that people can now choose from over 70 courses, covering digital, adult numeracy, employability and work readiness skills, which have been identified as the skills employers need the most. These courses will help people stay in work, or take up new jobs and opportunities.

Whilst this platform is distinct to the National Retraining Scheme and the National Skills Fund, the insights we have gained developing the National Retraining Scheme, including the benefits of online learning to provide flexible accessible training, have informed the design and delivery of the platform.

Summary of the fund

We are providing £2.5 billion over the course of this Parliament, for a new National Skills Fund to help people learn new skills and prepare for the economy of the future.

The fund will help ensure that businesses can find and hire the workers they need and help people fulfil their potential.

Get in touch

If you have any questions about the National Skills Fund or if you would like to contact us about a particular issue or with feedback about this newsletter, please email [the mailbox](#) in the first instance. We can then put you in touch with the right person in the team.