

## Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) Week Goes Down A Storm At Chiltern Training



PLA 13 and A38 working with tutor Lynsey and Tim Waters from Nacro during an Information, Advice and Guidance workshop .

Following our successful IAG week in June, Chiltern Training ran the IAG week again in October. The week was an astounding success with learners gaining an insight into the opportunities available to them after they have qualified. Our Learners gained inspiration for various career choices and were provided with various workshops and talks on topics including finance, health and Gap Year Challenges. Learners also got involved in workshops on how to participate in

volunteering projects in their local communities. The students have found the benefits of the IAG week invaluable to helping guide them in the right direction for their future careers.

The IAG weeks were introduced in response to learner feedback which had indicated that learners would like more information on career opportunities in the childcare sector.

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### New Pre-Apprenticeship Course Starting in November

Chiltern Training will be running a new pre-apprenticeship course from mid November. It will be a 12 week course geared at those under 18 who are not quite sure what career path they would like to take. Our pre-apprenticeship course has a child care focus. It provides an insight in to what it is like to work in the Early Years Profession. Learners will gain Functional Skills as well as completing a Paediatric First Aid Course.

You will also gain some valuable practical experience - and it's fun!!

If you would like more information or know anyone who is interested in this course, then please contact either Sarah Darsley or Josie Ballard on 0118 956 6995.



### First Aid At Work

In line with the October 2009 changes to the Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations, we are running a 3 day First-Aid at Work Course in December at our Reading Centre. We have 6 places available to external candidates. The course complies with HSE requirements and is HSE approved and certified. The course will run on the 3rd, 10th and 17th December from 9:30am to 4:30pm.

The cost of the course is £150 per person.

If you would like to find out more information or to book a place please email Katy at [katy.edwards@chilterntraining.org](mailto:katy.edwards@chilterntraining.org).

*Lostsocks: The bi-monthly newsletter for Chiltern Training*

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A note from Katy.....

We have had a busy start to this academic year and this included the introduction of several new courses.

As NVQs begin to be replaced by the new diplomas and certificates, there is a lot of work going on to ensure the transition is as smooth and effective as possible. We are also increasing our management training to include the Working Safety Certificate from the Institute of Occupational Health and Safety. Details are on page 3. As you will see from our front page, feedback from our Information, Advice and Guidance week has been very positive and we will now be running two IAG weeks per year. We are also taking applications for our sponsored GAP student for 2011.

I know that we will all become busier and busier with the countdown to Christmas already started, and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all our employers for their continued support - a special word of thanks to those who are participating in our new pilot course of full time Programme Led Apprentices who have recently gone out into the workplace for NVQ assessment.

As always, we welcome your feedback and suggestions so please don't hesitate to get in touch on 0118 956 6995.

## The Comprehensive Spending Review - will it affect your training budget?

The simple answer is yes - indeed it already has done. Train2Gain, which has enabled so many practitioners to update their team leading and management skills, has already been limited to first time only qualifications—in other words, if you are over 19 years old and already have one qualification at level 2 or 3, then you're not entitled to funding for another.

However, if you do not already hold a qualification at either 2 or 3, then you will be entitled to funded training. Unfortunately, even this will be cut by the end of this academic year as Train2Gain has been axed by the Government. They have given a commitment to honour the funding for all those currently in training or who start this year, but there will be no new starts after July 2011. We are currently in the fortunate position still to be able to offer T2G to first time achievers, so if you, or a member of your staff would like to do a "first" level 2 or 3 in childcare, then please call us as soon as possible to secure your funding.

The funding for apprenticeships is also limited to a "first" level 2 or 3 framework and for the moment, there is only one bite at the cherry. You are only entitled to do one full apprenticeship at each level. If however, you are over 19 years old and have not achieved a full apprenticeship framework in childcare, but do hold a level 3 qualification in childcare, you may still be entitled to funding for a full advanced apprenticeship in Management.

For further details, call Sarah or Josie in our Admissions department on 0118 956 6995



### College Closing Dates for Christmas



We will be closing our Spalding, Swindon and Reading centres at lunch time on Christmas Eve, 24th December 2010 and will re-open for staff on Tuesday 4th January. Classes will resume for students on week beginning Monday 10th January.



### Welcome to new staff as Chiltern expands

#### *A warm welcome to Wendy.....*

We would like to welcome Wendy Scobie as a Training Officer in our Swindon office. Wendy is a qualified assessor and Internal Verifier and joins us from Switch Training in Wiltshire. Wendy will be teaching and assessing with Karen and will be visiting our Swindon settings over the next few months. As an IV, she will also be a regular visitor to the Reading Office.

#### *..... and Laura*



We would also like to welcome Laura Senior to our Reading Office. Laura is joining our Admissions Team and will be working with Sarah and Josie to help our learners find a suitable work placement in Reading, Swindon and Spalding. Laura will also be delivering learner inductions. She joins us from Garnet Education Publishing.

Laura Senior

## Working safely

Bringing health and safety to life!



### Student Friendship

We asked almost 400 learners, prior to applying, how had they heard about their course at Chiltern. Over one third of our learners have come to Chiltern on recommendation of their friends who are either past or present students.

Thank you and keep it up!

## Institute of Occupational Health and Safety ( IOSH ) Awards

As part of our continued growth into the management sector, we are delighted to advise that we are now accredited by the Institute of Occupational Health and Safety (IOSH) to deliver Health and Safety qualifications for the workplace. We have already trained all Chiltern Training Officers who will be continuing to carry out our annual Health and Safety audits within our settings and can now offer qualifications to all our settings who may wish to train their own staff or Health and Safety representatives. We are offering the IOSH Working Safely Passport and Certificate. Working Safely is for people at any level, in any sector, needing a grounding in the essentials of health and safety. These are one day courses and can be delivered on site for a group over two mornings, or one day, or a single place can be booked for a session at our Reading Centre. Working safely:

- A one-day course offering all the basics in a high impact interactive package
- Fantastic quality animated graphics
- Designed to be fun and get people fully involved and interested
- Jargon-free technical content based on what people need to know in practice, not off-putting legal language
- Clear scenarios drawn from genuine work situations to drive home practical points
- The very latest training tips and suggestions – from grabbing and retaining attention to maximising the training experience and making sure key points are taken on board

Assessments built into the day's training – no need for follow-on tests on separate days, taking up valuable work time.

**For further information or to book your place on a course, contact Katy on 0118 956 6995 or e-mail [katy.edwards@chilterntraining.org](mailto:katy.edwards@chilterntraining.org)**

## Celebrating Success with Learners who Achieved in September and October 2010!

### CCLD Apprentice:

Vicky Elliott—Tigers Too

### CCLD Advanced Apprentice:

Rachel Ward—Brightstart Day Nursery  
Anisha Dhaliwal—Orchard Day Nursery  
Philippa Woolnough—Norcot Early Years  
Nazia Chaudhry—Bearwood Nursery  
Chelsea Scicluna—Christ The King School  
Rachel Stevens—Forbury  
Lisa Waldren—  
Kayleigh Doyle—Dickory Docks  
Emma-Leigh Morris—Bishopswood  
Anne Lever—Christ The King School  
Leanne Coles—Little Learners  
Charlotte Moody—Monkey Puzzle  
Lynda Grant—Toad Hall  
Zeynep Mert—Rainbows  
Lisa Waldren—Goldilocks Day Nursery

### Train To Gain NVQ 3:

Annabell Kwok—Hazebrouck Nursery

### Train To Gain NVQ 2:

Margaret Akuoku—Christ The King School

### Certificate In Team Leading Level 2:

Stacey Lewis—Bramley Wood

### Management NVQ 3:

Katie Williams—Bramley Wood Day Nursery  
Lucy Sanderson—Waverley Nursery  
Lorna Lepetit—Little Dragons

### Supporting Teaching & Learning Level 2:

Chelsea Howard—Lutton School  
Alison Gratton—Holbeach Road School  
Vicky Lyon—St. Pauls School  
Nicky Tumath—St. Pauls School

## Employer Networking in Swindon

We would like to thank our Swindon employers for supporting our networking meeting held at our Swindon office on 19th October.

Some excellent discussion took place around the possible benefits and drawbacks to the new qualification, in particular the fact that the new Certificate and Diplomas for the Children and Young People's Workforce offered no alternative. The content, however, was considered satisfactory.

Again, we'd like to thank those who attended and look forward to seeing you at our next Wiltshire networking meeting in the New Year.

Feeling worried about something? Feeling harassed or bullied and need someone to confide in and talk to? We understand there can be times when you need some advice or support, text our **Learner Support** number on 07786204949 and start your text with 01189.

STUDENT  
advice  
centre



# GAP Exchange Case Study: Christine Lowrie In Japan



After completing her Level 3 in Children's Care, Learning and Development Christine decided to apply for our Gap Exchange Sponsor Programme. Christine became CTL's sponsored gap Learner and spent 6 months working in a Japanese care home. Here is Christine's story of her experiences while in Japan.

Christine begun her travels in Tokyo, exploring the diverse and cultural city and taking in a few tourist sites, before travelling on to her care home in Takarazuka. At the care home Christine found herself comforted by the knowledge of caring for vulnerable people from her time on her course and started to pick up the routine. She found herself also picking up the local Japanese dialect Shegal.

Christine found herself immersed in the care home's daily routine where she helped care for the residents, taking part in concerts, exercise activities, calligraphy, flower arranging, dog therapy, pottery, aroma therapy and aerobics. With each day Christine's confidence grew, she found herself exploring more and more of her local city and immersing herself in the Japanese culture and every day life. Christine really enjoyed being able to share stories of what her life is like back home to the residents of the care home and seeing them so interested in her way of life.

Exploring Japan's unique and beautiful culture from watching the sun rise on The Golden Temple to chasing the fire flies at night has really inspired Christine to explore more cultures. Christine has had an amazing experience by doing the Gap Exchange Programme it has provided her with challenges that have been rewarding and has provided her with great achievements, even her biggest fear of a language barrier was unfounded and she found herself fitting in to the Japanese way of life with ease. Christine is our second learner who has been funded to Japan on a GAP Year, Carole Fitzpatrick from Bracknell went several years ago. More recently, our students have opted for Orphanages in India.

We are currently taking applications from any learners who are currently completing their Level 3 and interested in applying for the next Gap Opportunity.

**If you are looking for a chance to contribute to a different community, would like to travel and interested in the Gap Year challenge then please contact Sarah Darsley on the Admissions Team.**

## Teenage Cancer Trust

Sarah Darsley, our Admissions Team Manager, has taken on the challenge of running not one, but two half marathons in the New Year and we are looking for any learners past or present, to join her in running to raise



money for the Teenage Cancer Trust.

If running is not your cup of tea, then help us raise money by sponsoring Sarah Visit [www.justgiving.com/chilterntrainingltd](http://www.justgiving.com/chilterntrainingltd)

## Stay Safe

With the approach of winter and dark nights, we urge all our learners to stay alert, particularly on their journeys to and from the workplace and college.

### Don't be a statistic!

Here are a few simple tips which could make all the difference.

- When possible, go home with friends or in a group.
- Try only to use cash machines during the day.
- Be vigilant when using your mobile, if it is lost or stolen use a friend's phone to contact your network or dial 08701 123 123 to immobilise it.
- After a night out, make arrangements to go home with friends, or in a taxi.
- At college evening class, never let anyone in the building unless you know they are in your group.

## PLA 14

### Well done to Class PLA 14 and Tutor Lynn

We would like to congratulate our full time Programme-Led Apprentices for completing the first ten weeks of their course. We are delighted to advise that everyone has achieved their full Technical Certificate, Key Skills and Induction Standards. The learners are now in the workplace and we would like to wish them good luck in their new placements, starting on Monday 8th November!

The class have all worked exceptionally hard to achieve their qualifications so quickly and their tutor, Lynn Cardrick, is delighted but exhausted!

Lynn will be running another full time course early in the New Year for any potential learners interested in pursuing a Programme Led course for Level 2 Apprenticeship.

If you, or anyone you know may be interested, contact Josie Ballard for more information on 0118 956 6995. This course is currently only being offered in the Reading Centre.