

## STAY CONNECTED

### A Round-Up Of Important Updates

July 2020 Edition



## Deadline Approaching - Action Required!

As you are aware there is now a new specification for functional skills which means the legacy qualification must come to an end. Due to COVID-19 they have now moved the last date of exams to December 2019. This means that all learners who are currently registered for the legacy functional skills will need to take and pass their exam before **December 31<sup>st</sup> 2020**.

If the learner does not complete and pass the qualification then they will need to be registered on the new qualification.

If you are unsure if this affects your learners please let us know.



## The Difference We're Making!

The transition from a classroom environment to a purely online environment has proved different, challenging but ultimately rewarding. Not being able to congratulate students 'face to face' or with a simple 'pat on the back' has been something we in the Functional Skills team have missed. This being said, an online bond has now been forged, coaxing students out of their shells, and having the confidence to talk to the camera at length has proved fulfilling.

This newly found confidence has allowed students to become more involved in group discussions, leaving their inhibitions at the 'virtual door'. Smaller groupings and one-to-one sessions have really allowed learning and teaching to excel, allowing Tutors to focus on an individual's needs much better. As a whole, Lockdown has been difficult but for learning it has opened a whole new world.

Over the Lockdown period, 166 Functional Skills exams and reviews were marked and returned, with some very close to 100%.

A total of 67 learners were submitted for Functional Skills Centre Assessed Grades during this period.

We are extremely proud of our learner's outstanding achievements and the high quality teaching we are providing.

## Our Impact



We are proud of our dedicated delivery team who have continued to deliver excellence throughout the lockdown period.

Marc Osgood (Customer Service Practitioner Apprentice) has recently achieved his apprenticeship with a distinction.

This is what he had to say about his time on the course -

"Thank you so much for all the help and support I've received since starting the apprenticeship. A special mention to Katie Osborne (Assessor) who was with me every step of the way."

Marc's employer also made a comment on his achievement -

"Marc has made a positive impression on the team at Canon by asking some probing questions around the future of the business, which made a very positive impression. This has had a lasting effect, as Marc has raised the bar on the future of Apprenticeships within the business." - Raie Wilson

## Our Partners Keeping On Track!



DRL Services have continued to work throughout the pandemic, our apprentices are keeping the industry moving!

With people only making necessary commutes, our railway apprentices have worked throughout this period to ensure those using the rail network are kept safe and all functions are still operating correctly.

We are extremely proud of their commitment towards their career.

## Are You Up To Date?

[Eligibility rules for EU, other EEA and Swiss nationals for access to FE 19+ and apprenticeships](#)

The last date for new starts for all remaining live SASE Apprenticeship Frameworks in England will be **31 July 2020**.

**Frameworks are coming to an end.**

All starts from **1 August 2020 must be on new, employer-designed Apprenticeship Standards.**

[Apprenticeship funding in England From August 2020](#)

How is the ESFA supporting employers during the economic recovery?

Click [here](#) to read more.

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