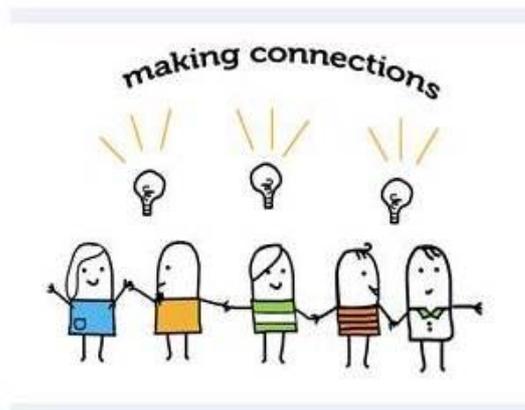




At OCN London we are committed to learning in its broadest sense, whether this takes place in an education institution, at home or at work. This month we have a particular focus on learning at work. We are therefore delighted to be sponsoring a special Impact Award. Find out more about this below. We are also really excited about our new qualification for apprentices. Read about this and other news.

Jacquie Mutter, Chief Executive, OCN London

INSPIRING LEARNING FOR ALL – CALLING FOR ENTRIES



We are sponsoring an Impact Award for Inspiring Learning for All as part of the Learning at Work Week initiative, run by the Campaign for Learning. If you are an employer doing imaginative work to reach people from non-traditional education backgrounds who don't normally engage in learning, then we want to hear from you. Deadline for entries is **22 July**. [Entry forms are on the Campaign for Learning website.](#) [Read more](#)



FUNDING INFORMATION ON THE LEARNING AIMS HUB

The Government's [Learning Aims Hub website](#) has the latest information about qualifications that are funded by the Skills Funding Agency (SFA) and Education Funding Agency (EFA). We can confirm that our qualifications and units which were funded by the SFA in 2015/16 will continue to be funded in 2016/17 under the local flexibilities funding stream. [Read more.](#)



ADVANCED LEARNING LOANS AT 19+

Learners aged 19-23 working towards qualifications at levels 3 and 4 are now eligible to apply for Advanced Learning Loans for qualifications, starting from 1 August 2016. [Find out which of our qualifications are eligible for these loans.](#)



20% DISCOUNT ON STAFF DEVELOPMENT QUALIFICATIONS

We have a range of Ofqual-approved qualifications for use in your staff development programme. They cover the following areas.

- Observing Teaching and Learning
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
- Technology for Teaching and Learning
- Information, Advice and Guidance
- Education and Training.

If you register learners on any of these courses by 30 June you will get a 20% discount. [Read more.](#)



CENTRE PROFILE - CONSTRUCTION YOUTH TRUST

The Budding Builders programme for unemployed adults and young people and Budding Brunels, which provides tasters in the construction industry for school pupils, have been an outstanding success. The impact is not just on getting people into jobs, but on building self-esteem and confidence.

[Read more...](#)



ACCESS TO HE CONFERENCE 12 OCTOBER

This year's Access to Higher Education conference takes place on **Wednesday 12 October** at the Park Crescent Conference Centre in Great Portland Street, London W1. The theme will be the role of Access to HE in enhancing equality, social mobility and inclusion. More information about speakers and workshops to follow. In the meantime, save the date.

News



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

HE WHITE PAPER

The long-awaited higher education white paper (published on 16 May) has

attracted much interest. Among the proposals are: (1) A freeing up of the market place for HE to enable more providers, notably private institutions, to enter the marketplace with degree-awarding powers. (2) A teaching excellence framework to improve the quality of teaching and make it easier for students to compare different institutions. (3) A new Office for Students, to replace the Office for Fair Access and some of the functions of the HEFC. (4) A requirement for universities to publish the gender, ethnicity and social backgrounds of their students to highlight the importance of widening participation. As well there will be a review of the credit transfer and accumulation system in England. Read more. [Success as a Knowledge Economy: Teaching Excellence, Social Mobility and Student Choice. Response from the University and College Union.](#)

SKILLS WHITE PAPER

Meanwhile, inside information about the content of the Skills White Paper (yet to be published) suggests a two-tier system where 16 year-olds will have to choose between academic courses leading to higher education or 15 new technical-professional routes into work. This comes as a blow to those who have campaigned for decades to end the vocational-academic divide. Expect fierce debate. [Read more.](#)

APPRENTICESHIP LEVY

The apprenticeship levy, scheduled for introduction in April 2017, has caused some controversy, despite its good intentions to encourage more investment in training. The levy, set at 0.5 per cent of staff costs, will apply to all businesses and organisations with a staff bill of over £3m. One issue is that it will only apply to apprenticeships. [A House of Lords debate](#) in May warned that making the levy exclusively for apprenticeships may deter organisations from offering a wider range of training for their staff. The [Charity Finance Group](#) says that proceeds from the levy collected from charities should be made available only to charities as the sector lacks the resources to invest in skills and apprenticeships.

PRISON EDUCATION

The [Unlocking Potential](#) report on education in prisons (published on 18 May) aims to improve the quality of prison education through a number of measures. Each prison will have a bespoke learning plan under the proposals. To improve the quality of teaching a version of the 'teach first' scheme will be launched to attract top quality graduates into prison education through a fast-track route. Other plans relaxing the rules on internet access and giving prison governors complete control of their education budgets. [Read more.](#)

Upcoming events

DEVELOPING YOUR ASSESSMENT SKILLS

Tues 21 and Wed 22 June, 10am-5pm

This two day accredited course is designed for those who have some but limited experience of assessment or for those who have already done short introductory training courses. It will focus on the practical skills needed by OCN London assessors so that participants to become a source of expertise within their centre. [More details](#)

[BOOK NOW](#)

INTRODUCTION TO ASSESSMENT AND MODERATION

Tues 7 June, 10am-4pm

This training day will prepare participants to deliver credit-based qualifications, by looking at how to assess and build learner portfolios, and how the internal and external moderation process works. [More details](#)

[BOOK NOW](#)

Click [here](#) to visit our website and find out more about our qualifications and bespoke accreditation options.

Contact us to discuss your needs on 020 7278 5511 or email us at enquiries@ocnlondon.org.uk.



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