

## inclusivelearning

e-bulletin/December 2019

# Hello.

**Thank you for all of your learning activities this year. Together, we have helped thousands work towards a better future.**

**Sometimes, when there is so much information and noise, it can be a little overwhelming, and that's why we created a one-stop shop for all, an A-Z of our learning resources for you. It could fill the missing piece in a meeting, conference, learning activity, spark an idea, start a conversation at a learning stall, workshop or discussion with colleagues. So please dive in and have a go and share. Click here.**

**Enjoy Christmas and happy new year.  
Let's keep on learning.**



JESS HURD/REPORTDIGITAL.CO.UK

**Martin Russo, Inclusive Learning  
Project Manager**

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## NEW DIGITAL RESOURCES FOR MATHS AND JOBS SKILLS

We've added two new sets of digital learning resources to the UNISON e-learning site that ULRs can use to help learners boost their employability skills and improve their grip on everyday maths issues.

ULRs and other reps can use the activities to help achieve our priority learning outcomes around maths, apprenticeships, digital skills and work supporting mid-career reviews. But they can also be used to support work in areas such as social care or supporting members prepare for personal development reviews (PDRs) in the NHS.

The three Moving On e-notes are

designed to help members develop the skills and confidence to successfully apply for jobs and perform well in interviews.

Each Moving On e-note focuses on a different theme: preparing to move on; writing CVs and filling in application forms; and interview skills.

In addition, *Making Every Penny Count* includes nine short activities (including a crossword and a quiz) designed to debunk the jargon of financial advice and help learners draw up and manage their own household budgets.

You can access the new resources **here**.

**For further information contact: 020 7121 5116**



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## Survey results

More than 80 per cent of UNISON members believe learning is important for their self-esteem and are ready to learn new skills to stay ahead in the jobs market, according to the union's Skills for the Future survey.

In addition, more than half of the members who hadn't undertaken any work-related training over the 12 months before the survey thought that it would have been useful if they had.

These were just two of the insights from the survey – one of the largest of its kind in Europe – highlighted by Hilary Stevens and Dr Andrew Dean at the launch of the summary in UNISON Centre last month. The two academics from the University of Exeter have been analysing the data since the survey closed earlier this year.

"What makes this research unique is the fact that this is the voice of the workers: now it's up to the government and to employers to listen," said Head of Learning and Organising Services Teresa Donegan.

You can find the report summary, full report and presentation slides [here](#).



## Mermaids workshop

More than 30 members working in north-west schools expanded their knowledge and improved their skills supporting trans children at three workshops during the October half-term.

Delivered by Mermaids, the charity that supports trans and non-binary children and young people, the half-day sessions helped school staff learn more about what a trans person's journey involves and how to combat transphobic bullying.

Held in Carlisle, Liverpool and Manchester, the course included interactive elements and group activities as well as information and advice.

"This was a much-needed, really informative session, packed with sensible advice and guidance for use in schools," says Regional Learning and Development Organiser Lyndsey Marchant.

Lyndsey organised the course in response to direct requests from schools members in the region.

"It was a full and busy morning that went down really well the members who attended: they thought it was brilliant, it got a really good reception," Lyndsey says.



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## ULR conference

Dozens of UNISON learning reps and lifelong learning coordinators celebrated their successes and looked ahead to the next year of workplace learning at the Shaping Our Future ULR conference in UNISON Centre last month.

The 45-plus participants shared their ideas, experiences and good practice in two discussion groups, where they looked at the next steps they could take to further promote learning opportunities to their members.

The wide range of learning that ULRs and other reps are organising at local level include trans awareness courses for schools staff in the North West; a theatre show to mark the international day of disabled people in the West Midlands; and the development of a follow-up course to Women's Lives in the East Midlands.

"People like me were told you have no right to have hope or ambition but you give people confidence to engage in learning and then progress from there – what a marvellous thing to do," Assistant General Secretary Roger McKenzie said.

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