

LEARNING IS CHANGING

Information for young people on raising the participation age



From 2013 - young people will have to stay in education and training up to the age of 17.

From 2013 - it will be a legal requirement for all young people to remain in some form of learning or training up to **17 years of age**.

From 2015 - young people will be required to remain in learning or training **up to 18 years of age**.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

If you were born **on or after the 1 September 1996** you will be amongst the first to be required to continue in education or training beyond 16.

If you complete year 11 learning in 2013 you must continue learning until July 2014.

If you complete year 11 in or after 2014 you will continue learning at least until your 18th birthday.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

Staying in learning will give you many advantages including:

- Making it easier to find and stay in a job
- Having the ability to earn and give you a greater choice of career path
- Being able to compete in the future job market
- Different ways of learning that are linked to what you want to do in the future such as run a business, go to university, do an apprenticeship

WHY?

By staying in learning you can gain the qualifications you need to help you to succeed. You will also have more chance to develop the knowledge and practical skills that employers are looking for. This means you will find it easier to get a better job, with better pay and career prospects. You can do this very flexibly - you can stay in school or college if you want to, but there are other choices available.

Your choices at 16:

- Further Education College
- Sixth Form
- Apprenticeship
- Independent Providers
- Work with training
- Self-employment with training
- Volunteering with training

DRAFT: 13-02-2013

QUESTIONS?

Can I volunteer?

You can volunteer for 20+ hours and can study independently alongside this worthwhile work.

Do I have to stay at school?

No. You may still leave school at 16 and access learning through college or work based learning.

Where can I learn?

There are many ways to access learning and training. You may choose a further education college or a school 6th form. There are other different types of qualifications, such as vocations, life and work skills, foundation learning as well as a range of GCSEs, AS and A levels. Or you may prefer to gain qualifications while training with an employer.

Can I get a job?

You can get a job only if you are also doing some accredited learning alongside it. This may be through an apprenticeship scheme, work based learning, or you may work part-time and attend college outside of your working hours.

Can I train to do a job?

Yes. If you know the career you wish to follow you may choose a specialist training provider. They offer work experience alongside key qualifications specific to that career. Or how about an apprenticeship? There are nearly 200 different job roles available as apprenticeships under which you will be training either on site or at college.

Can I do nothing?

No. The purpose of raising the participation age is to provide you with more time to develop the skills required to follow a successful career and working life.

Can I earn whilst I am learning?

Yes, for example the pay for an apprentice may start at £92.50 per week.

MORE INFORMATION

www.inspira.org.uk

www.apprenticeships.org.uk

www.cumbria.gov.uk

If you would like this information in another format or language please contact:

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DRAFT: 13-02-2013