

Diploma Newsletter

Summer, Edition 6

The Diploma

How time flies...

As we closed the door to the 2008/09 academic year, it was great to see the fruits of all the hard work done in making sure that the first year of the Diploma was a success for all. Throughout the year, I've been very proud to include articles in our newsletters that showcase some of the exciting opportunities consortia have provided to their learners. It is fantastic to hear how engaged and motivated they have been on their Edexcel Diploma courses. It only remains for me to say good luck to those of you starting your Diploma experience in September; and congratulations to those of you who have successfully completed your first year of delivery. **Louise Richardson, Editor.**

Carnival of Life

Moving together- performance at BFI Southbank , produced by the Lambeth Consortium Creative and Media Diploma partnership.

Lunchtime visitors to the BFI Southbank (British Film Institute) on Friday 26th June were entertained by a spectacular multi-media carnival presentation, developed by the Creative and Media Diploma consortium in Lambeth to pilot the new Diploma starting in September.

Combining dance, drama, costume and textile design, film, photography and music, the performance made the most of the public spaces of BFI Southbank. It processed through from the cinema to the gallery, with a grand finale of a dance and samba band in the foyer.

150 Year 9 students from three Lambeth schools; (Charles Edward Brooke, Dunraven and Norwood), worked together with professional artists, including Rambert Dance and ActionDog, to produce the display. Meanwhile, a smaller group of 30 students produced and marketed the carnival with guidance from experienced professionals, including the BFI team. This gave all learners involved a great experience of work-related learning in an arts and media organisation.

The project was funded by the arts organisations of the Southbank and the Lambeth Consortium. It was managed by the Lambeth City Learning Centre (CLC), currently based at BFI Southbank. (Both the CLC and BFI are part of the Lambeth Consortium).



Gearing up for September

During July we met many consortia with varying experience of Diplomas for our summer series of 'Building Your Total Solution' events. This was an ideal opportunity for those involved with Diplomas to attend a variety of workshops throughout the day and be updated on Diploma developments. The workshops were based around common issues such as managing quality and preparing Lead and Domain Assessors effectively, Project delivery, Curriculum Planning and Additional and Specialist Learning. The day began with a keynote speaker from an experienced consortium who work closely with us, followed by workshops on emerging practice from other consortia. These workshops ranged from delivering effective information, advice and guidance through to planning successful employer engagement.

We have been working really hard to prepare an even more comprehensive training support programme for the next academic year.

Look out for forthcoming events, listed in our new Diploma Training Directory for 2009/10 and on our Diploma website.

Diploma Expo Events 2009 - Save the date!

EVENT OF THE YEAR!

The leading event for Diploma professionals, absolutely free.

We're really excited to announce we will be hosting our annual Diploma Expo Events in Birmingham, London and Manchester in October 2009 as a platform to launch the Phase 3 Diplomas.



Designed with you in mind - with over 25 workshops on offer, you can drop into the ones that are relevant to you. They cover the many dimensions of the Diploma, from Principal Learning to Projects. The huge exhibition is open all day for you to find out how our partnership organisations can help ensure your Diploma is stress-free. If your time is limited, you can book a slot for advice and guidance at our Diploma surgery on the day.

The 'hands on' exhibition gives you the chance to discover how our partnership organisations can really benefit you with teaching, administrating and generally bringing the Diploma to life. It will also be a unique opportunity for you to browse the vast range of our free and our published teaching resources that promise to build on our '*Diploma Total Curriculum Solution*' and to talk to Diploma experts face-to-face.

The dates are as follows:

7th October- Birmingham
8th October- London
13th October- Manchester

To find out more information and book your free place online, [click here](#).

What's new?

Principal Learning

We are pleased to announce that we now have full accreditation for the Environmental and Land-based Studies Principal Learning qualification. Specifications are available via your nearest Regional Office. The tutor support materials will be made available over the summer.

Great news - Edexcel has been accredited with conditions for all of the Phase 3 lines of learning in Sport and Active Leisure, Public Services, Retail Business and Travel and Tourism. You can expect to see the fully accredited specifications on our website at the start of September.

Additional and Specialist Learning

The new version of the catalogue for Additional and Specialist Learning will be released on 28th August. This will be the first release of the catalogue to include the new Phase 3 qualifications. There will be little change to the qualifications that support Phase 1 and 2 Principal Learning qualifications.

Our WorkSkills Plus (a level 3 WorkSkills qualification) has now been launched! Details of the units and innovative lesson plans are available in a 'mini-spec' format on the website [here](#). The approval process for this qualification will be up and running soon. If you have any further questions concerning this new qualification please contact workskills@edexcel.com.



Dates for your diary

The exam timetable for the January series is now available on our website and can be [found here](#).

If you or your Exams Officers are new to Diplomas and need further support, we have provided a set of extremely helpful administration support documents, which can be [found here](#).

Support Materials

If you are planning to teach any of the Principal Learning qualifications from Edexcel, please make sure you have visited the relevant Diploma subject page on our website. You'll find helpful documents on there, such as all the past papers and examiners reports for Phase 1 Diplomas. For Phase 1 and 2, you can find the specifications and the tutor support materials with all the schemes of work and sample internal assessments to help you and your learners. Following your feedback, the tutor support materials are now available in a Word format, so that you can tailor them to suit your needs.

Forthcoming training – 'Previewing the Diploma'

Look out for our free half-day *Previewing the Diploma* training sessions running this autumn term. These are your first chance to learn about all the 14 lines of learning that we are offering and are designed for new practitioners, local education authorities, diploma advisors, consortium management and administrators.

Delegates will have the chance to:

- develop an understanding of the structure of the Diploma
- take an in-depth look at our specification and units
- learn about the support and services we offer to build a total curriculum solution for your Diploma success.

You can book your place on these events through our [website](#), or call 0844 576 0028.

What do you think?

If you'd like to give us any feedback on this newsletter, materials you may have received lately or anything else, please do so by emailing diploma@edexcel.com

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