

Diploma Newsletter

Autumn 2008, Edition 3

The Diploma

Teaching has started!

The waiting is over and the first students have started the first ever Diploma courses. So how are they going? If you're interested in the Diploma read on to find out about...

- The experiences of some students so far
- How to register your students
- Planning to teach a Diploma Line of Learning in autumn 2009.

If you would like to tell us about your experiences, get in touch via louise.richardson@edexcel.org.uk

Registering your students

We'd like to remind you that you'll need to register your students for the summer series of assessments by **November 15th 2008**. This can be done via www.edexcelonline.com or via the Electronic Data Interchange (EDI). A guide to using EDI can be found in your information manual. If you would like to speak to us about registration and/or entries please call one of our Diploma staff on **0844 576 0028**.

A useful centre guidance to entries can also be found by following this link: <http://developments.edexcel.org.uk/diplomas/support/administration/>

College unites with local schools

As schools and colleges across the country get to grips with the new Diploma qualifications, MidKent College has joined forces with schools in its area to deliver the Diploma in Society, Health and Development.

The course, which is running at levels one and three, allows college lecturers to work with school teachers to offer students a unique combination of school and college teaching experiences.

Year ten students at Chatham South School study level one version of this course, whilst sixth form students at Rainham School for Girls study level three. Students complete half of the Diploma units at the college whilst the other half is taught in their school classrooms.

Chloe Rustage, 17, studies one day a week at the college and spends the other four days at her school sixth form, where she also studies A Level Psychology.

"So far, having the Diploma split between school and MidKent has been great as it breaks up the work and gives us a wider range of teaching staff" commented Chloe.

"The work we do on the Diploma is totally different to the kind of work we do in our A Levels; it's much more practical and relates more directly to the world of work."

Part of the course relies on us completing work experience in the health and social care sector, which I'm really looking forward to."

As well as the Diploma in Health, Society and Development, the Diploma in Engineering, Creative and Media Studies and IT are also available at MidKent College.



Level one students Lauren Dixon (left) and Jo Georgiou (right) get to grips with some children's toys as part of their course

Sir Alan Jones gives the thumbs up to Edexcel

Last month we were delighted to welcome **Sir Alan Jones**, of Semta and Toyota and the Employer Champion for Diplomas to our head office in London. He kindly endorsed the work we are doing in developing, delivering and supporting the Diploma on film for us so that we could show this to all of those who were able to attend one of our regional events in October. He highlighted the need for a qualification which blends the Functional Skills of English, maths and IT with the applied practical knowledge needed for the workplace.



Perspective - Collaborative Learning Manager

To continue to strengthen our 'total support' offer to you we've teamed with a company called Perspective. Perspective offers a powerful resource called the **Collaborative Learning Manager (CLM)**. This helps track and monitor students studying the Diploma.

Benefits to you:

- user-friendly system with immediate results
- log in anytime, anywhere
- 'red-flagged' absences can be actioned immediately
- fluctuations in results are highlighted
- instant access to attendance statistics

For further information please visit the perspective website at:

<http://www.perspective-uk.com/perspective>

Nice to meet you!

As our Regional Conferences and our length-and-breadth tour of the country is now over, we'd like to take this opportunity to say how nice it was to meet so many of you and put some names to faces. It was great to be able to hear first hand about your experiences, your issues and concerns and give you the confidence that you're not the only one – the Diploma is a very complex new qualification. Something we should all remember.

If you did manage to attend one of the regional events, thank you for making them a huge success.

If you weren't able to attend a conference, presentations and speaker notes will be available to download for **FREE** from www.edexcel.com/diplomas shortly.

What do you think?

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

Contact us

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