

GET IN THE KNOW!

Issue 6 – April 2015



GET Open Day/Apprentice Recruitment Event

GET held its first Open day/apprentice recruitment event on the 13th March which turned out to be a successful event. Thank you to all employers that supported the event whether that was by supplying apprentices to help out or by coming along and putting up a stand. We had over 100 young people come through the doors to have a look around the facility and speak with potential employers.

If you have any feedback on the Open Day please forward this on to Kelly White (k.white@get-trained.org)

Awards

There are a number of awards that are taking place both in the county and nationally. This is a great opportunity to get your companies recognised for a number of different awards.

- Gloucestershire Media Apprenticeship Awards <http://digital-thisis.co.uk/gloucestershire/apprenticeshipawards/>
- Stroud Life Business Awards <http://www.digital-thisis.co.uk/stroudlife/businessawards/>
- National Apprenticeship Awards <http://www.apprenticeawards.co.uk/landing.php>
- Engineering, Manufacturing and Innovation Awards <http://emiawards.cotswoldlife.co.uk/>
- EEF Awards (The 2014 awards programme is now closed but national winners will be revealed at the EEF National Gala Dinner on 15 April 2015 at the Grand Connaught Rooms in London. The 2015 awards will be open in April)
- SEMTA Skills Awards <http://www.semta.org.uk/skillsawards2015>

HND and Degree Level Provision

As a result of customer demand and in line with our company vision, we have been investigating the possibility of delivering degree level provision from our site in Gloucester.

We have had really encouraging discussions with 3 Universities but need further data from our employers in order to progress these conversations further.

One of the key elements of the conversation we have been having with the Universities is the entry level of our current apprentices. As you are all aware, we currently only deliver the HNC and whilst most Universities will accept this qualification, we feel it would be more cost effective to our customers if we were to deliver the HND rather than buying in 'bridging year' from the University. On top of this, a number of current learners (as well as new potential HE Learners) have been asking about the HND as a standalone qualification regardless of any ambition to progress onto the Degree.

We therefore would strongly urge you to complete the attached questionnaire to enable us to identify demand for both the HND programme and the Degree.

Unfortunately we have limited information about the degree programme currently, however, if you have any specific questions about the HND programme/proposals; please contact Martin Wear (m.wear@get-trained.org)

CNC Module - Practical or Academic Module?

Ever since GET introduced internal delivery of the Technical Certificate, CNC has been delivered as part of the Academic element of the framework, rather than a practical unit in the first year off-the-job training phase. Having a few years to now reflect on this arrangement, we would be keen to hear your views on whether this should stay as a module within the Technical Certificate or if we should revert back to delivering CNC as a practical unit during year one. As business requirements continue to change, we would also like your views on whether or not the unit remains as a 'back to basics' approach to CNC or whether a post programming approach would be more relevant. We will obviously continue with our current arrangements for those learners already on programme, but have time to consider alternative approaches for our next intake of learners.

Please forward your thoughts to Kelly White (k.white@get-trained.org)

If you have any Technical questions about the CNC module please contact Martin Wear (m.wear@get-trained.org).

Government Funding Reforms

Chancellor George Osborne's Budget confirmed the introduction of a digital apprenticeship voucher system which will give employers "purchasing power" and "put employers in control of the government funding for the training apprentices need." The mechanisms will be trialed immediately and fully implemented by 2017. The announcement settles two years of uncertainty over how to route apprenticeship funding and may disappoint those who called for money to be handed directly to employers. The system would give employers "purchasing power," but actual government cash to pay for training will go straight to providers — just like the current system — and not into employers' hands first.

For more information or if you have any questions about Funding Reforms please contact Linsey Temple (l.temple@get-trained.org)

HNC Ceremony

This year we will see our first cohort of Higher Education Learners complete the programme. We will be sharing in the celebration of their success by putting on a presentation event during which they will be issued with their certificates. Although the details have not been finalised it is likely it will be held at the end of September/early October at a local venue. Employers will be invited along with the learner and 1 guest.

GET Staff Structure

There have been two key changes to the staff structure over the past month or so. They are:

- Academic Team – Martin Wear has now taken over as Team Leader for the Academic team.
- Review Team - Mikela Lowthian has now taken over as Team Leader for the Review team.

They will now join the Senior Management Team along with Jan Sully and Gareth Cook. Please see the updated GET organisation chart that is attached along with this newsletter.

We currently have two vacancies open which are

- Mechanical Instructor (with CAD/CNC exp.)
- Full time Facilities Administrator/Receptionist

For further information on the vacancies or the staff structure please contact Erica Phelpstead (e.phelpstead@get-trained.org)

Got anything you want to share with our learners and employers?

If you have any news or information which you would like to circulate to our employers and apprentices within our newsletters please contact Kelly White (k.white@get-trained.org)