



Agenda

Disability and Skills Unit Conference: Improving post -16 outcomes for disabled young people in education, training and employment

Thursday 25th February 2021, 10.00 am - 3.30pm

Friday 26th February 2021, 10.00 am – 12.30pm

The coronavirus outbreak is currently causing huge upheaval to everyone's lives, but especially to the lives of disabled people. It is a particularly challenging time for disabled young people seeking education, training and work.

We need to work creatively and collaboratively to ensure that good quality information, tools, resources, and best practice are widely shared, and that the best possible support is provided in order to improve opportunities and outcomes going forward.

This 2-day event aims to:

- Provide information on different post-16 options and relevant resources.
- Share best practice on solutions dealing with barriers disabled young people face and reasonable adjustments in work, training, and education.
- Support employers, careers and enterprise advisers, training providers, teachers, family carers and other stakeholders to make their practice and learning and work environments more inclusive.
- Share initiatives to better engage with disabled young people and increase confidence and motivation.

Thursday 25 February

- 10.00 Welcome and housekeeping
- 10.05
- Opening address
Kamran Mallick/ Fazilet Hadi DR UK
Poem by Ella Sanderson
- 10.20
- “Inclusive Apprenticeships: The hidden secret.”
Jonathan Smith, Targeted Employment Officer,
Essex County Council
- 10.40
- My Apprenticeship Journey
Scott Noon, Former apprentice
- 11.00
- “Doing things differently - how the pandemic has changed our delivery and focus.”
Julie Benton, Development Manager, Ansbury
Guidance
- 11.20 Break
- 11.30
- “The magic of a strength-based approach-empowering young people to recognise their own brilliance”.
Katherine Jennick, Creator, What’s Your
Strength?
- 11.50
- “Practical Tips and Strategies for Employing Disabled Talent.”
Michael Vermeersch, Digital Inclusion Lead,
Microsoft
- 12.10
- “Neurodiversity Awareness: supporting neurominority young people into employment.”
Fiona Barrett, Director of Operations, Genius
Within
- 12.30
- “Accessible Careers Support for Disabled Candidates”
Jane Hatton, Director, Evenbreak
- 12.50 Lunch break
- 13.20
- “The Why.”
Louise Worts, 14-19 Leader, Daventry Hill
School
- 13.40
- “Specialist Employment Service: A Journey to Employment.”
Fay Stoodley, Employment Support Officer &
Sarah Benn, Contracts Co-ordinator, The
Specialist Employment Service, The Education
People
- 14.00
- “Why Understanding Motivation and Improving Engagement is Crucial.”

Sarah Stones, Motivation Specialist, Plain Sailing Motivation

14.20 Break

14.25 “Disabled Students Helpline: Supporting disabled students to achieve their maximum potential through information and advice.”

Rundip Thind, Education Officer, DR UK

14.45 • **Sue Jenkins**, Head of Inclusive Learning, Ealing, Hammersmith and West London College

14.05 • “Supporting vision impaired students into and throughout Further Education.”

• **Tara Chattaway**, Student Support Manager, The Pocklington Trust

15.25 Feedback and Closing remarks

Friday 26 February

10.00 • Welcome and housekeeping

10.10 • “Widening access to apprenticeships.”

Anna Morrison, Director, Amazing Apprenticeships

10.30 • “Autism in the Workplace - How employers can support individuals.”

Thomas Cliffe, Director, Track

10.50 Break

11.00 • “Empowering through Vocational Profiles: Starting aged 12 and beyond.”

Henrietta Still, Enterprise Coordinator, East Sussex

11.20 • “Deaf young people and equal access to communication.”

Martin McLean, Post-14 Policy and Practice Lead, The National Deaf Children's Society

11.40 Break

11.50 • “What’s Positive and possible during the pandemic.”

Elaine Dale, Director of SEND Support & Nursery, City College of Norwich

12.10 • “Online Work Experience at the Financial Times”.

Jacqui Dobson, Diversity and Inclusion Partner, Financial Times

12.25 Feedback and closing remarks