

Teachers getting resources for online lessons

In response to the pandemic, which has forced educational institutions to rapidly get to grips with online teaching, 11 West Midlands colleges have joined forces to produce a suite of new e-learning tools to help teachers.

There are 10 interactive continuing professional development resources for teachers, created jointly by specialists from the colleges and put together by the Blended Learning Consortium.

The project has been funded by the Department for Education through the College Collaboration Fund.

The resources, which will be free and open to all colleges and teachers from across the UK, are being introduced for the first time at a special online event, organised by lead college Walsall College today from 2pm to 3pm.

The event will be led by principal and chief executive of Walsall College, Jatinder Sharma, and Roger Cotes, deputy director, careers and further education from the DfE

The five key themes will further be introduced by a team of specialist teachers who were involved in putting together the materials.

Dr Jayne Holt, assistant principal for learning services at Walsall College, said: "We are incredibly excited to be launching these online synchronous teaching, learning and assessment resources."

Other colleges involved in the project include Sandwell College, University College Birmingham, Dudley College of Technology, South Staffordshire College and Birmingham Metropolitan College.

Sandland invests in apprentices



LADDER FOR THE BLACK COUNTRY

Find out more about the Ladder for the Black Country:

CALL: 03332 409 699
EMAIL: apprenticeships@ladderfortheblackcountry.co.uk
ladderfortheblackcountry.co.uk

A company specialising in the production of cardboard packaging is investing in apprentices.

As part of the Ladder for the Black Country campaign, Sandland Packaging is working with PTP Training in Walsall on the recruitment of apprentices and establishing the best fit apprenticeship standard for the business.

Sandland at Phoenix Industrial Estate, Loxdale Street, has been going through a period of growth which has also led to investment in a new hi-tech finishing machine for its cardboard boxes.

The equipment is at present on the seas making its way over from China.

The company, established more than 30 years ago, has recently taken on 16-year-old Kai Harper on the Lean Manufacturing Operative L2 Apprenticeship and he will be learning how to operate the new hi-tech equipment

Sandland, which currently employs 95, is also giving the opportunity to two trainees to prove themselves with the prospect of being taken on as apprentices. The programme starts next month.



Bilston's Sandland Packaging is investing in a new machine to finish cardboard boxes

Sandland managing director Martin Hickman said: "Kai is picking things up quickly and in training on our existing machines – and will work on the new one when it is installed."

Kevin Newell, Walsall-based project manager for engineering and construction at PTP, said that traineeship programmes were a brilliant way for employers to work with training providers and find the prospective apprentice that they need.

"They are better than just interviews. A few weeks of work experience tells an employer a lot about the communication skills and how well the potential apprentices get on with other people," he explained.

Businesses in engineering and construction looking to take on apprentices or young people interested in finding out about apprenticeship opportunities can contact Mr Newell on 07734 814 903 or e-mail: kevin.newell@ptp-training.co.uk

WHY SHOULD YOU GET INVOLVED IN THE LADDER?

What are we asking employers?

Quite simply, we want businesses across the Black Country – big and small – to take on one or more apprentice. The Ladder can offer impartial advice.

Why are we doing this?

Youth unemployment has doubled since the beginning of 2020 and the number of apprenticeships on offer is almost 50 per cent lower than this time last year, so we are eager to encourage businesses.

What are the benefits for firms?

- Skilled and motivated workforce
- Fresh innovative ideas
- Increased productivity
- Bridging the skills gap
- Contribute to the growth of the local economy

What are the incentives for taking on an apprentice?

The Government has introduced incentive payments of £3,000 to employers for each new apprentice they hire.

EDUCATION

School is a happy and vibrant place for children

COMMERCIAL FEATURE

All at St Giles' are committed to providing the highest standard of teaching and learning, pastoral care and broad co-curricular and extra-curricular experience.

Although the school is over 100 years old, the whole school has been fully modernised with the latest technology and resources to create inspiring learning environments for all the children. Staff aim:

- To provide academic challenge and stimulate a love of learning enabling all children to make good progress from their individual starting point.

- To offer a deep and broad curriculum enriched with quality learning with equality of opportunity for all.

- To develop character, values and morals through a distinctly Christian ethos, valuing all faiths and cultures.

- To maintain close and mutually supportive links with the Church and the Diocese.

- To foster mutually beneficial community and business partnerships.

A spokesman said: "We are a successful primary school with over 400 pupils, aged from three to eleven, with spacious grounds, set within a conservation area overlooked by St Giles Church.

"As a school, we believe that the most valuable education is one that is broad and balanced, enabling children to enjoy their childhood whilst benefiting from a wonderful range of opportunities both in and out of the classroom.

"We believe that sport and physical activity is important for growing children and that many important lessons for life are learned in this arena. We are proud to have achieved the School Games Sports



St Giles CE Primary School in Willenhall

Award for three years consecutively and ensure all our children are taught two hours of PE each week with Years 5 and 6 swimming every week."

Governors are also fully committed to the Arts and have ensured that all children are taught music by specialists and have the opportunity to play a musical instrument, as well as having specialised dance and gym and dance coaching.

"Finally we believe that no education is complete without a spiritual element to it, teaching children to appreciate beauty, to be creative and to value others.

"We are extremely proud that St Giles' C.E. Primary has maintained its 'Outstanding SIAMS' again in 2017, and Ofsted's 'Good' rating in 2018."

Ofsted 2018 stated – "The Early Years provides a happy and vibrant environment for all its children."



St. Giles'

CE Primary School

OPEN DAY

Prospective Parental Meeting

Online virtual Open Day

September 2021 intake.

10.00 am Thursday 1st April.





If your child is three before 31.8.21, you will be eligible for a Nursery place at our school. We are also able to offer a small number of 30 hour sessions for eligible parents.

If you would like to find out more, please join us an introductory parental meeting to find out more.

Please contact the school via Email to receive further details. Please look at our school website for further information.
www.st-giles.walsall.sch.uk

'You must love one another as I have loved you.' John 13 v 34.

Working together with love we will provide a happy and nurturing environment where all will, 'learn to love and love to learn', making outstanding progress through an enriched and creative curriculum. Through our strong Christian ethos we will celebrate and embrace the richness of our community. Learn to Love - Love to Learn - 'You must love one another as I have loved you.' John 13 v 34



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