Information for young people and parents

Learner Destinations survey, Schools Sixth Form Pilot
The Learning and Skills Council (LSC) which funds school sixth forms, is currently undertaking a new survey that will help us to understand what young people do after completing sixth form studies.

A number of schools throughout England are helping us to test this important survey. Pupils who completed their learning at these schools in 2008/09 are being invited to take part, although there is no obligation to do so.

Learners are being invited to complete a short questionnaire. This will either be a paper questionnaire or an online questionnaire.

Learners’ feedback is extremely important to us.

All responses, online and postal, much reach us by 12 January 2010 in order to be included in the survey.

Information on the survey
The Learning and Skills Council and two government departments (the Department for Children, Schools and Families and the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills) will analyse the data and produce a summary of results for each school, which will be shared with them. The results may also be used to inform research about the pathways which young people take through and after school. The organisations collecting the survey results on our behalf are RCU and Ipsos MORI.

Why is the survey taking place?
This survey is part of a pilot extending the ‘Framework for Excellence’ to school sixth forms. The Framework for Excellence is designed to provide information about how well school sixth forms, colleges and training providers are performing. If this pilot is successful, the survey will be extended to all school sixth forms next year and, in future, the information will be published to help other young people choose their options when they reach the age of 16.

What is the “unique number” and why do you need it?
We have allocated a unique random number to each learner who has been invited to take part in the survey. This number is printed on the survey. We need to know the unique number to help us analyse the survey results accurately. We cannot use the answers if this number is missing or if it is crossed out.

This number will enable us to link individual responses to other information, such as the school the learner attended, the subjects studied, examination results, and age. This information is held in the National Pupil Database which contains information about pupils collected regularly from schools by the Department for Children, Schools and Families. Linking your responses in this way means that we do not need to ask you so many questions.

Where did you get my contact details?
Your contact details have been taken from the School Census, which contains information regularly collected from schools by the Department for Children, Schools and Families. More information about this census can be found online at http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/management/ims/datacollections/schoolcensus/scbackground/.

**Which sections should I fill in?**
The survey is about what you did between finishing sixth form in 2008 and the end of July 2009. Please fill in any sections that are relevant to you, but only those sections.

Use this quick guide to work out which sections you will need to fill in.

**Between finishing sixth form in 2008 and the end of July 2009:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If you</th>
<th>Then fill in</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Did further learning at a sixth form, college or university</td>
<td>Section A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Did any paid work or a self-employed job</td>
<td>Section B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Went on an Apprenticeship or formal training programme</td>
<td>Section C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Did any voluntary or unpaid work</td>
<td>Section D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Did no paid work, self-employed job, learning or training at all</td>
<td>Section E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Everyone is asked to fill in sections F, G and H.

**Can I ask someone to help me fill in the survey?**
Yes, you can ask someone to help you, for example by explaining the questions or by writing your answers in for you. If someone has helped you to fill in the survey, please record this by answering the question right at the end of the survey.

**Your data**
The data will be handled securely and in accordance with the Data Protection Act. Your answers will only be used for research and statistical purposes. If after sending the survey back to us, you want your data to be destroyed and therefore not included in the survey, please email enquiries@rcu.co.uk.

We will keep your answers private and use them for research and statistical purposes only. We need to know your name so we can link your answers to the National Pupil Database. Your school will see a summary of all the responses from your school but not your individual answers.

The survey follows the rules of the Market Research Society. If you have any worries about the survey, you can email the research company Ipsos MORI at learnerviewssurvey@ipsos-mori.com.

**I still have questions about the survey**
If you have any worries about the survey or want to know more about how we will use the results please e-mail: frameworkforexcellence@lsc.gov.uk quoting “Learner Destinations Schools Survey” in the subject line or write to us at
RCU Ltd., Freepost Licence No. PR1 571, Preston, PR1 5YX. You do not need a stamp.