Welcome to the March edition of the LSC Learner Support Directorate’s Childcare News.

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General information

1. National Career Guidance Show feedback

We let you know in the last e-bulletin that the National Career Guidance Show took place on the 3rd and 4th March at the Emirates stadium in London.

We manned an exhibition stand at this event and had available marketing materials and information on all the Learner Support schemes that we administer, including Care to Learn and Free Childcare for Training and Learning for Work.

The event was well-attended and we received a lot of interest in the schemes from career guidance professionals.

Please note that marketing materials for Care to Learn and Free Childcare for Training and Learning for Work will be updated for the 2010/11 Academic Year. These will be made available for you to order to distribute to learners from the end of April. We will update you in future editions of this e-bulletin of when these are available to order, and how you can do this.

2. Training Needs Analysis - results

In last month’s edition we gave you initial feedback from the Training Needs Analysis that we asked you to complete in February.

We received 995 completed surveys; and would like to thank you all for taking part. Some key points from the survey are outlined below:

- 88% of you confirmed that you had access to the internet. 50 of you said that you would be prepared to use a 3rd party to access the internet.

- The majority of you would prefer support and training through a mix of briefing packs (23%), workshops (15%), and FAQs (14%).

- Of those who would like workshops, the best time for you to attend these is during the day (22%) or evening (21%).

We will use the information from your responses to improve our training and support materials for you in the future.

We will update you in future editions of this e-bulletin about any training events or products we make available.
If you need information on the Learner Support childcare schemes, you can contact the Provider helpline on 0845 600 7979, or visit our website www.lsc.gov.uk/providers/moneytolearn (or www.ypla.gov.uk after 1st April).

3. Marketing materials for 2010/11

As you are aware, details of what marketing materials we produce are available in our Marketing and Support Materials Catalogue 2009/10.

However, please note that marketing materials will be updated for the 2010/11 Academic Year and these will be made available from the end of April. We would therefore advise you not to order large numbers of 2009/10 marketing materials before they are updated.

Please note: as you are aware, currently, Prolog handles the storage and distribution of application packs and marketing materials for Learner Support schemes. This is currently referred to as LSC Publications. From 1st April, this will change (in name only) to YPLA Publications to reflect the move of Learner Support to the YPLA. You can continue to order materials as normal by calling 0845 602 2260, quoting the relevant reference numbers.

We will update you in future editions of this e-bulletin of when the updated materials are available to order, and a reminder of how you can do this.

4. Move to YPLA and contact changes

We have mentioned to you in past e-bulletins that from 1st April the LSC will cease to exist and the Learner Support Directorate will transfer to the Young People’s Learning Agency (YPLA). As such, there will be some changes to the contact details that you may hold for us. Please be aware of the following changes and look out for details in future editions of this e-bulletin for any further changes.

The helpline numbers, for both learners and Providers, will not change. These remain as 0800 121 8989 (learner helpline) and 0845 600 7979 (Provider helpline).

To contact us with any queries on information you read in these e-bulletins, you should now email Childcare-news@ypla.gov.uk.

You can find information on the Learner Support childcare schemes from the YPLA website at www.ypla.gov.uk.
Please ensure that colleagues are made aware of these changes and encourage them to sign up to receive these e-bulletins to keep informed of news from Learner Support. We will continue to update you through future editions of any changes.

**Actions you may need to take**

A reminder of the actions to be taken over the next few weeks. Please:

- Take note of the feedback from the Training Needs Analysis.
- Look out for details of when marketing materials have been updated for the 2010/11 Academic Year.
- Take note of the contact details changes outlined in this issue, and look out in future issues for any more changes.
- Encourage any Providers or advisers not already signed up, to register to receive this e-bulletin.

**How to find out more**

**Learning and Childcare Providers**

Learning Providers and Childcare Providers can find out more information about each of the childcare schemes by calling us on **0845 600 7979**; please select option 3 for Care to Learn and option 4 for Free Childcare for Training and Learning for Work and Sixth Form College Childcare.

**Learners**

Learners can find out more information about the schemes by visiting [www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk) and searching for the relevant scheme.

They can also call the learner helpline on **0800 121 8989**. This is a freephone number, which can also be used to access advice about other Learner Support schemes managed by the LSC, including Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) and Adult Learning Grant (ALG).