

Students' Union (SU)

Union Representatives

Thanks to all those learners who expressed an interest in becoming a departmental representative for the Students' Union.

A committee has now been formed and representatives are: Salal Ali, Business and Admin; Joyce Mills, Fashion and Textiles; Vanessa Pettitt, Paul Thomas and Helen Benson, Functional Skills; Kyle Spence, Sport; Robert Coughlan and Nathan Jones, Catering; Louise McClelland, Customer Service; Jade Warren, Hairdressing; Lauren Woods, IT.

The first committee meeting took place on 8 November. Plans for a Cake Sale and Christmas Party were discussed.

Cake Sale

During break and lunch times on Thursday 25 November in the College canteen, to raise funds for SU / Children in Need. Please support the event by bringing in cake donations / buying cakes on the day.

End of term party

Will be held on Friday 10 December incorporating 'The Green Factor'. Look out for posters on noticeboards / in classrooms and on the intranet giving more details. Donations for raffle prizes welcome.

People News

Welcome to... Daniel Squire, Learning / Job Coach; Claire Winterburn, Chef; Alex Medany, Sports Leader; Joanna Stell, FJF Admin Officer

Goodbye and good luck to... Alison Lee, Finance Officer

Thanks to... learners from Fashion and Textiles who have made 'Chemobags' for a local breast cancer charity. Get involved with making more on Thursday 16 December. Full instruction will be given. Contact Colette for more details.

Employer links

Greenbank's employment team works hard to improve links with employers to help people gain relevant experience and secure employment. The 2 main projects operated currently are Routeways to Employment and Future Jobs Fund (both funded until March 2011)

Routeways to Employment for Disabled People

Routeways supports disabled people resident in Liverpool or Knowsley to find work. Since the project started in October 2008, 121 people have found work. A celebration of the achievements of the Routeways project will take place on Thursday 9 December at Greenbank College from 10am - 12.30pm.

Future Jobs Fund (FJF)

Greenbank FJF works with long term unemployed people aged 18 to 24 to offer paid work experience for 6 months with a voluntary sector employer. The FJF programme has so far placed 441 participants in to paid work placements and 188 have completed. Greenbank vacancies are advertised each week at greenbankemployment.org.uk

Placements are also available at a Jobs Fair at Local Solutions from 10am - 2.30pm on Tuesday 16 November (contact your local Jobcentre advisor for more information).

Safeguarding

Anti-bullying week (15 - 19 November 2010)

Greenbank College is using anti-bullying week to encourage everyone to work together to provide a safer learning environment.

Two short films (produced by Teachers TV) about impact of bullying are available on the Student Intranet and will be shown in classes w/c 15 November. Also a PowerPoint presentation emphasising the importance of working together is available.

Any bullying should always be reported to a member of staff. Contact Anne Kinsella for more details

Facebook safety

All users of Facebook should protect themselves when using it by:

1. Not placing personal information (number, date of birth etc) on their profile
2. Do not accept all 'friend requests'. If you don't know the person, do not add them to your accepted friends
3. Do not leave your computer on with your Facebook account open - anyone could then make posts on your wall etc
4. Keep anti-virus software updated
5. Don't use it to leave offensive messages
6. Keep your page 'clean' (photographs can be used against you!)
7. If you are being victimised or bullied on Facebook report it using the Facebook link.



FOCUS

No 120 November / December 2010

New start for 2011

Greenbank College has places for learners to start on courses throughout the year. Why not plan to get 2011 off to a positive start by enrolling on a course to learn new skills?

Greenbank College has a wide range of courses to choose from - for the most up to date information visit greenbankcollege.org.uk. So whether you're a young person looking to take the first steps towards getting a job or an older person wanting to re-train and develop new skills - Greenbank has something to offer.

Exciting developments for January 2011 include the start of Hairdressing courses. A brand new salon is due to open at the end of January, where learners enrolled on Level 1 NVQ Certificate in Hairdressing and Barbering or Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Hairdressing can get practical experience whilst they study.

Course enquiries can be made by phone on 0151 733 7255 ask for Guidance

or by completing a Guidance Enquiry Form available from greenbankcollege.org.uk

Stronger links with the work place

The College catering department has expanded opportunities for learners to gain practical experience whilst studying for qualifications.

The training department now operate the kitchen at Time Out, Greenbank Sports Academy on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9am - 4pm. A new menu is now available to download from: greenbanksportsacademy.co.uk/index.php/restaurant Visit the restaurant and show your support.

From December / January (date to be confirmed), the catering team will also be able to offer work experience from a City centre location - the cafe at The Door, Hanover Street.

Look out for details at greenbankcollege.org.uk



Catering Students' Dinner

Thursday 2 December from 5 to 9pm

Greenbank Sports Academy Restaurant

All welcome! Booking is advisable

Ofsted inspection

Greenbank College is to be inspected by Ofsted on Tuesday 16 and Wednesday 17 November. Inspectors will be observing lessons and may want to talk to learners during sessions.

Group session for learners with an inspector will take place: 1.45 - 2.15pm Tuesday 16 November in Rathbone Room 10.30 - 11am Wednesday 17 November in G32
Contact your tutor if you would like to be involved.
Thanks to Students' Union representative Robert Coughlan for agreeing to speak with Inspectors about the work of the Students' Union.



Online basics... ...drop in to Greenbank College

**Mondays, Tuesdays or
Thursdays 9am - 12pm**

To find out how easy it is to start using a computer and the internet with the help of Online basics. Whether you're looking to develop internet skills for a new job or simply save time and money by using the internet to pay your bills - Online basics can help you get the skills you need.

Sessions available to start immediately.
Call 0151 733 7255
or email
greenbankiag@greenbank-project.org.uk

Equality and Diversity

Disability History Month

The first UK Disability History Month (DHM) takes place from 22 November to 22 December 2010 and then annually.

DHM is based on the 'Social model' of disability. This recognises that it is the barriers of the environment, organisation and attitude that disadvantage disabled people.

Nationally DHM will:

- Celebrate the struggles and achievements of disabled people
- Looks at the history of discrimination, negative attitudes, and oppression and creates an understanding of the barriers faced by disabled people

- Enables people to challenge this - Hate crime, poverty and discrimination are a daily experience amongst the UK's 12 million disabled people.

At Greenbank College look out for classroom / canteen activities including quizzes, an opportunity to watch the 'Talk' dvd and other films and generally a chance to celebrate the achievements of disabled people.

For more information visit:
ukdisabilityhistorymonth.com

Faces of Greenbank

How many faces do you recognise?



Thanks to all those who took part in 'Faces of Greenbank' over the summer. A mystery prize is available to the person that can name the most people on the poster (displayed in the main corridor at Greenbank College, in classrooms and in Sports Academy reception). Closing date for entries - 10 December 2010.

Please email entries to:
info@greenbank-project.org.uk or hand in your list of names to reception.

Fundraising

Thanks to the following individuals / trusts / companies who have supported Greenbank recently:

Foundation for Sport and the Arts - £4,376.60

Liverpool City Council Early Years Funding - £477.40

Liverpool JSoc - £743

Deloitte - staff volunteers cleared Greenbank grounds and painted fencing. Support included the donation of £100 for equipment

Cost free ways to raise funds for Greenbank

1. Using easyfundraising.org.uk

a free service allowing users to raise money for a cause while they shop online, and it doesn't cost the user a penny! All you have to do is register an account, choosing 'Greenbank Liverpool' as your cause to support. From then on you can access your favourite shops through the Easyfundraising website, who will then donate a percentage of any purchase you make.

2. Using eBay

Sell your unwanted items on eBay and select to donate a percentage of sale price to Greenbank. Visit ebay.co.uk to sell your items and follow the instructions given when listing an item. Under the heading 'Raise money for your favourite charity' click on the link 'select another charity' and search for Greenbank.

Feedback

Greenbank College takes your learning seriously and welcomes feedback so that services can be improved.

Induction:

Following an induction all learners were asked to complete a short form about their experiences and recommend any changes. 149 people answered the questions and all said that they were made to feel welcome. The majority (143) were happy with the information received before induction and found the enrolment form easy to follow (144). 40 people made comments, which were mainly confirming their satisfaction with induction eg 'nothing to change - it's fine'. Any suggestions made eg 'consider the convenient time for the learner; not the College' will be considered when planning 2011 induction. The full report is available on the Intranet.

Learner Views:

As a College receiving Government funding Greenbank needs to have its services monitored. One of the ways in which this is done is by learners themselves giving their opinion. During 2009/10 155 Greenbank College learners took part in the Learner Views survey which is part of this process. The survey asked questions about staff, teaching, resources and overall service and awards a score out of 10 for each question. Greenbank's overall score was 8.7; its highest score (9.2) was for 'respect staff show you' and its lowest score (7.8) was for 'the advice given about what you can do after the course programme. The full Learner Views Survey is available on the student intranet. All learners are encouraged to take part in this year's 'Learner Views Survey' which is available at <http://ffe.skillsfundingagency.bis.gov.uk/pi/learnerviews/> from 15 November 2010 to 27 May 2011. **All learners will be given information about their UPN which needs to be inputted to log on.**

Christmas

Workshops

Join us for a range of fun and creative workshops in the lead up to Christmas. The majority of workshops do not require any previous experience and materials are included.

17 & 24 November (2 workshops) 1 - 4pm

Print & decorate your own individual table runner or place mats for Christmas or other festivities **£30 per person**

1 December 9.30am - 12 noon
Make a Christmas stocking from fabrics & trimmings
£12 per person

1 & 8 December (2 workshops) 1 - 4pm
Have fun creating your own felt fabric and turn it into an original accessory item (brooch, purse, bracelet or hair accessory)
Makes a unique gift
£30 per person

Contact Guidance
0151 733 7255
greenbankiag@greenbank-project.org.uk

Celebrate with us

Why not arrange a Christmas celebration at Time Out Restaurant? Choose from:

1. **Catering training evening** from 5 - 9pm

Thursday 2 December
a 2 course meal for **£7.50** or 3 courses for **£9.50 All welcome**

2. **Christmas menu** available at Time Out from 1 December. 3 course meal for **£17.00** (children under 12, **£8.00**)

Closure

Greenbank College will close for learners on Friday 10 December 2010 and re-open on Monday 10 January 2011. Have an enjoyable holiday period.