



Wandsworth Council Lifelong Learning

Impact Report
2024-2025



Welcome

I am delighted to introduce the Wandsworth Council Lifelong Learning Impact Report for the 2024/25 academic year.

The service has continued to grow and develop an inclusive offer for young people and adults.

Our Lifelong Learning team continues to deliver a comprehensive course offer from the Gwynneth Morgan Centre in East Hill, as well as other community venues and on-line. Commissioned providers enable the service to offer high quality learning opportunities from multiple sites across the borough.

In the last year just under 2,400 adults were funded from the Adult Skills Budget and this work covers everything from: helping those whose first language is not English; supporting adults to develop skills for work; and, helping people to progress in work. In summary, adult education brings together different services to deliver high impact work at a local level.

Wandsworth is officially a Borough of Sanctuary, and the work of the Lifelong Learning team and partners, has contributed to helping refugees and asylum seekers to gain the skills they need for life and work in London.

Helping young people to understand the world of work and make good career choices is supported by our work experience programme. 1,165 young people accessed the council's work experience programme delivered by our BEST team which has been in existence for over 30 years.

Offering high quality work experience is a key thread that runs through the youth programmes. This report also highlights some of the targeted work taking place to support young people who are not in education, employment or training, and the opportunities to develop their skills for further study and/or employment.

I was absolutely delighted to be part of the 2024/25 Wandsworth Learner of the Year event. This year's shortlisted learners were all so inspirational and it was amazing to hear how individuals have transformed their lives



Councillor Judi Gasser, Cabinet Member for Children, Wandsworth Council with learners, family and staff at the Lifelong Learning Learner of the Year event.

through the power of learning.

I hope you enjoy reading about the work that has taken place. The Impact Report is brought to life by the case studies and comments from learners, tutors and employers.

As Cabinet Member for Children and Libraries, I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to our work in Lifelong Learning. I'm really looking forward to the year ahead as we continue to provide the best possible offer to young people and adults.

Councillor Judi Gasser,
Cabinet Member for Children and Libraries,
Wandsworth Council.



Learner of the Year Case Study

“ Diana’s exceptional achievements, resilience in overcoming personal challenges, and commitment to equity and inclusion make her a standout learner. I have no doubt that she will continue to make a profound impact in the field of education, and I wholeheartedly believe her achievements should be recognised. ”

Samantha Ross, Skills Coach.

After ten years of being at home to bring up her children, Diana decided that she wanted to pursue her ambition to become a teaching assistant.

Diana demonstrated exceptional dedication, determination, and resilience throughout her journey as a voluntary teaching assistant, achieving her qualifications in Support Work in Schools Level 2 and progressing to Support Teaching and Learning in Schools Level 3. Her journey has been marked by outstanding achievement, both academically and in her practical work.

Diana had no previous experience of working in an educational setting and she progressed from volunteering to gaining employment in a Pupil Referral Unit. Her perseverance and resilience are a testament to her strength of character and commitment to her professional development.



Diana with Cllr Judi Gasser and Santino Fragola, Head of Wandsworth Lifelong Learning



Diana, pictured on the left, with Lorna on the right, at Wandsworth Professional Development Centre.

Diana said: “When I found out that I had been nominated for this award, the first people I told were my children. Seeing my children so excited and proud of me made me feel incredibly proud of myself.

Before this I struggled to even leave the house, so to even do the course and then go back out to work and win an award for it is amazing.”

Watch Diana’s winning film: [Learner of the Year 2025 Official Trailer](#)

How Did We Do?

Wandsworth Council Lifelong Learning at a Glance

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>2,397 Adult Learners funded through the Adult Education Budget (AEB)</p> | <p>54 students with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) accessed work experience with local employers</p> | <p>Hold the Mayor of London's Skills Academies Quality Mark for Digital Provision</p> | <p>103% of GLA contract delivered.</p> |
| <p>4,848 enrolments meaning that a high number of adults enrolled for more than one course</p> | <p>1,165 young people were placed on work experience</p> | <p>Provided support to 152 refugees accessing ESOL and preparation for employment courses</p> | <p>Matrix accreditation for Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) services</p> |
| <p>1,035 accredited enrolments</p> | <p>OFSTED rated us as GOOD</p> | <p>99% graded their overall experience as a learner at Lifelong Learning as Excellent (73%) or Good (26%)</p> | <p>Working as part of UKSPF youth project - Jumpstart to Success</p> |
| <p>318 participants on Multiply, the first skills programme launched through the UKSPF</p> | <p>Successful partnership delivery with 10 commissioned providers</p> | <p>Apprenticeship delivery in 4 subject areas</p> | <p>Delivering the central London Youth Trailblazer Full Potential project to 70 care experienced young people.</p> |
| <p>£2.7 million INCOME</p> | <p>94% overall achievement rate on AEB programmes</p> | | |

Working Across Multiple Funding Streams to Contribute to National, Regional and Local Priorities

Wandsworth Council's priorities:

A fairer Wandsworth

To make Wandsworth fairer we will:

- Work towards ensuring all local people have a genuinely affordable place to call home
- Support residents who are impacted by the cost-of-living crisis and COVID-19

A compassionate Wandsworth

To make Wandsworth more compassionate we will:

- Be a compassionate council that truly listens and is ambitious for all.
- Create safer neighbourhoods where communities feel confident and protected and victims and survivors are supported.

A more sustainable Wandsworth

To make Wandsworth more sustainable we will:

- Tackle climate change by working together with our residents, businesses and communities and will be carbon neutral as a council by 2030.

The curriculum is agile and takes account of national priorities, particularly in relation to the essential skills required for life and work: digital; English; maths; ESOL; preparation for work. There continues to be responsiveness to cost of living pressures and work with refugees. Work is also aligned to the [London Growth Plan](#) and the [London Local Skills Improvement Plan](#) which outline London-wide priorities. The Mayor of London's Priority Sectors have been identified as: Creative; Green Economy; Digital; Health & Social Care and Hospitality.

Vision & Mission

Wandsworth Council Lifelong Learning mission statement

All Wandsworth residents will have access to a wide range of high-quality learning opportunities in a safe learning environment. Provision will be responsive, flexible and held at times and in places designed to meet the needs of learners, employers and the local community.

The Lifelong Learning team aims to improve the employment skills, career development, the quality of life and well-being of residents in the borough, making Wandsworth a vibrant, prosperous learning community.

Wandsworth Council Lifelong Learning priorities

- 1 To lead and manage high quality learning.
- 2 To increase the number of learners achieving and gaining qualifications.
- 3 To meet the needs of individuals, communities and employers in Wandsworth to support effective pathways to employment.
- 4 To widen participation in learning.
- 5 To link adult skills and community learning to other key strategies and initiatives.

More About the Make-Up of Learners in Wandsworth and Their Courses

Good participation of ethnic minorities in **non-accredited community learning (66%)** and **accredited provision (58%)**

Participation of learners with a disability and/or learning disability is high in both **non-accredited community learning (16%)** and **accredited learning programmes (21%)**

Participation of learners aged 50+ in **non-accredited learning (33%)** and **accredited learning (28%)**

29% of learners are from areas of deprivation

76% of learners on non-accredited community learning are female

Apprentices are aged between 16 and 54, with 1 aged 50+

Those on accredited classroom courses are aged 19 to 85 years, with **214 learners aged 50+** and **214 ESOL learners**

In non-accredited community learning, **41%** of enrolments were in English, maths and ESOL, **18%** in digital and **22%** in pre-employment training

“ Learners and apprentices, many of whom return to education after a long time, learn in a highly nurturing environment. They value the genuine care staff have for their well-being, and desire for them to succeed. Adult learners value the positive and inclusive atmosphere in classes, online and at the various centres they attend.

OFSTED INSPECTION REPORT 2025 ”



Reflecting on our Ofsted inspection in April, we decided we deserved a treat – and what better way to celebrate than with a delicious cake!

Adult Skills, Apprenticeships and Much More

Through Adult Learning there is a varied curriculum, with courses starting at entry level, through to Level 5. Most provision is up to Level 3 with a high demand in the following areas: Customer Service; Management; ICT; ESOL; English; maths; health and social care, mentoring and counselling.

Bespoke numeracy programmes have been delivered through Multiply, funded through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF). Additionally, the service is involved in a local authority UKSPF partnership led by the City of London, Jumpstart to Success.



An Adult Learning Excel class at the Gwyneth Morgan Centre in East Hill



Jamie who completed both the Level 3 and Level 5 Management Apprenticeship routes. Watch this short video about Jamie's experience [Jamie's Apprenticeship Story](#)

As part of the Get Britain Working programme, the service is involved in the delivery of the central London Youth Trailblazer project, called Full Potential. The programme started on 1 April 2025, and will target 70 care experienced young people aged 17-25 in its first year. The primary aim is to progress young people into education. Employment or training.

Apprenticeships

The service offers apprenticeships up to Level 5 to employed staff and new entrants to the labour market in the following subjects: Adult Care; Lead Adult Care; Child development and Wellbeing, Childcare; Team Leader; Operational Management; Teaching Assistant; Business Management; Business Administrator; and Customer Service.

“ Apprentices adopt professional behaviours that help them become valued members of staff. They acquire up-to-date and relevant knowledge, that they apply confidently in the workplace. Apprentices overcome any challenges they face with effective support from coaches that helps them achieve well in training and at work. ”

Ofsted Inspection Report 2025

Multiply

The service implemented an innovative approach to the delivery of **Multiply** connecting a number of strands to support engagement. The service delivered 1,500 enrolments over the 3 years with a total of 374 enrolments in the 24/25 academic year and the Multiply contract concluded at month 8 of the academic year in March 2025. Some features of Wandsworth Multiply:

- Work with local employers such as the NHS to promote numeracy courses to enable staff to develop their skills and confidence
- We were creative in adding additional relevant maths modules embedded into vocational courses – for example as part of our Food Safety courses we looked at the cost of wastage at home or in a hospitality outlet and how you can reduce this and the savings that can be made.
- Courses to help parents/carers to develop their skills to help their children – for example basic multiplication course

Jumpstart to Success

The **UKSPF Jumpstart to Success** programme, led by the City of London Adult Learning and Skills team, is delivered in partnership with other local authority providers in central London. WCLL has worked with young people aged 16-24 providing the following support: careers guidance; 1-1 mentoring support; work experience placements; support with applications and job search; access to personal development training.



Daniel, who participated in the Jumpstart programme

In the first year of Jumpstart the service worked with 61 young people with 41 progressing to education, employment or training. Some of those who excelled on Jumpstart include:

- Daniel benefited from support, advice, guidance and work experience, and has progressed to training to become a police officer. This has been Daniel's ambition for some time.
- Christian achieved Functional Skills English and maths Level 1 and is now doing maths Level 2. Christian hopes to work in media.
- Ahmad has focussed on Functional Skills English and has achieved Levels 1 & 2. He has progressed to Kingston College to study Engineering and Business, and is continuing to receive support from the service.
- Maureen who is new to the UK has achieved Entry Levels 2 & 3 in English and completed an intro to Health and Social Care. Her ambition is to become a nurse.
- Theo has achieved Functional Skills Levels 1 & 2 in Maths. Currently, he is working in construction and hopes to own his own business in carpentry or mechanics.
- Caitlin has achieved Functional Skills Level 2 English and is now working as a dog groomer.
- Attia achieved Level 2 English and has progressed to Kingston College to do BTEC IT at Level 2.

Youth Trailblazer – Full Potential

As part of the Get Britain Working programme, the service is involved in the central London Youth Trailblazer project, called Full Potential.

In Wandsworth the project will target 70 young people between April 2025 and March 2026.

This involves particularly close working between Lifelong Learning, the Virtual School and Leaving Care. However, many internal and external stakeholders have collaborated and committed to making this project successful.



George who was on Full Potential and placed with Krinkels UK in his ambition to establish a career in grounds maintenance.

The Trailblazer project will:

- Support care leavers aged 17-25 in Central London to progress toward, and move into, employment, education and training;
- Build capacity through helping boroughs and other stakeholders to innovate, to work together, and to learn from each-other;
- Build the evidence base about what works in supporting care leavers into employment, education and training.

As part of Wandsworth's London Borough of Culture Internship Programme Lifelong Learning has supported the recruitment of nine young people who have been placed with organisations spanning theatre, music, dance, visual arts and community arts. We were able to use Trailblazer funding to support two internships specifically for care leavers.



Shanti who is placed with Battersea Arts Centre

Matrix Accreditation

Learner quote from the Matrix Assessment Report 2025

“It’s an inclusive learning environment, very encouraging and so supportive. I am happy and feel safe here”

The Matrix Standard is an international standard for information, advice, and guidance (IAG) services.

The standard is owned by the Department for Education and ensures the high-quality delivery of IAG. It is relevant to all sectors and is a means of demonstrating quality and making IAG better.

The Lifelong Learning team has held the standard for a number of years, showing further development at each assessment.

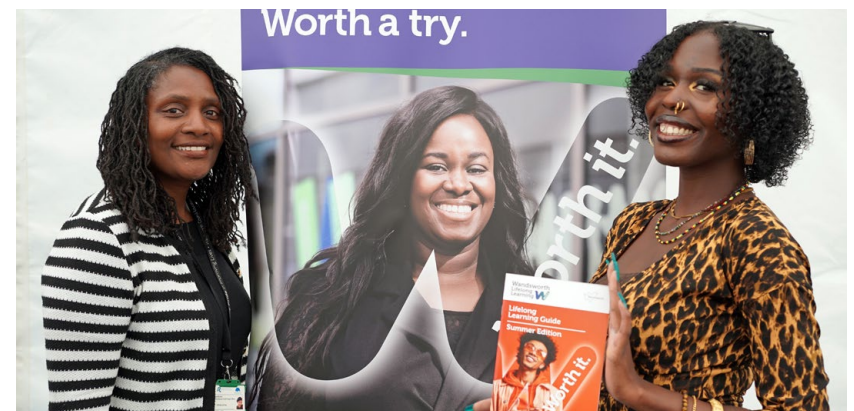
The assessor said:

“Throughout the assessment, all management and staff showcased a highly learner-centred culture and ethos. Tutors and management, from a range of subjects and levels, all described a holistic IAG service covering topics well beyond the course subject matter, and how their role is key in delivering positive outcomes. This passion was also evident in support and administrative staff. Staff furthermore praised a sense of coherence and belonging, and happily described their personal and wider organisational values.”

The full report can be read [here](#)

Feedback from Adult Learners – What You Told Us...

- 99% graded their overall experience as a learner at Wandsworth Lifelong Learning as Excellent (76%) and Good (23%). 98% felt that the course met their expectations/personal objectives for enrolling.
- 99% felt that they were treated fairly and with respect by all staff. 99.7% felt they were safe whilst on their course.
- As a result of attending the course: 36% developed new interests; 62% learnt new skills that will help them in the future; 35% developed skills that will help make changes in their lives; 59% feel more confident; 7% feel they have improved their maths skills; 32% feel they have improved their English skills; and 19% feel their confidence with Digital Skills has improved.
- 47% progressed to further learning: 2% into an apprenticeship and 2% into a traineeship.



Lifelong Learning staff, Jackie and Zante, promoting courses to Wandsworth residents

Partnerships are Key

In addition to courses delivered directly by the Lifelong Learning team, the service works with quality assured commissioned providers through Adult Skills. Below is an overview of provision in 24/25.

WCLL Adult Education Contract

| Provider | Content of Provision |
|--|---|
| Wandsworth Council Lifelong Learning (WCLL) | Our direct delivery provision consists of accredited and non-accredited employability courses, ESOL, functional skills English, maths, ICT, professional learning and health and wellbeing. From Entry Level to Level 3. |
| AEET | Accredited and non-accredited training opportunities in construction, retail, hospitality, linked to job opportunities. Entry Level to Level 1. |
| Deaf First | Accredited and non-accredited lifeskills courses for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. The curriculum includes English, maths, health and wellbeing, employability and digital skills, up to Entry Level 2. |
| Katherine Low Settlement | Accredited and non-accredited community courses to support children and their families, older people, newly arrived communities, and supporting unemployed people. KLS provide courses on behalf of WCLL to help people improve their English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and maths. Entry Level to Level 2. *KLS will pause provision for 25/26. |
| LIBS UK | Accredited and non-accredited courses in ESOL, functional skills (English), ESOL, digital skills, construction & care. From Entry Level to Level 3. |
| Ripe Learning | Ripe Learning delivers accredited digital skills, ESOL, pre-employment training, English and maths. Accreditation up to Level 3. |
| MI ComputSolutions | Accredited and non-accredited provision. Courses in ESOL, digital skills, English, maths, IT, and financial training at Entry Level. |

| Provider | Content of Provision |
|--|---|
| Ripe Learning | Accredited and non-accredited courses in English, maths, digital and essential workplace skills. Entry Level to Level 2. |
| Skills Room | Accredited courses at Level 2 which strengthen skills to prepare learners for work in the health and fitness industry. |
| South Thames College | Delivery of non-accredited courses focussing on employability skills, wellbeing for 60+, English, maths, digital skills & ESOL. Entry Level to Level 2. |
| Strive Training | Accredited and non-accredited courses. Courses which strengthen basic skills to prepare learners for work. Expertise in hospitality and health and social care, linked to job opportunities. From Entry Level to Level 3. |
| Wandsworth City Learning Centre | Non-accredited courses to support the development of essential digital skills and insights into new technology. |



All current subcontractors can be found here: [Community Learning - Wandsworth Lifelong Learning](#)

“ Leaders and managers work effectively with subcontractors to engage disadvantaged groups in learning. Leaders select subcontractors with suitable expertise to teach specific groups within the borough. ”

OFSTED REPORT 2025

Work Experience

The Wandsworth Education Business Partnership (also known as Business and Education Succeeding Together, or BEST) was originally established as a charity in 1993 and has re-tained its founding Chair, Mr. Graham Stapleton, the Executive Headteacher of Graveney School.

The world of work is unrecognisable compared to when BEST was established. However, the necessity to support and guide young people into careers that suit them best remains critically important.

Through the amazing support of local employers, Wandsworth Council has delivered an extensive and inspiring work experience programme this summer, opening doors for hundreds of young people to explore future careers and gain invaluable insight into the world of work.



The Worshipful the Mayor of Wandsworth Councillor Jeremy Ambache hosts employers to discuss the importance of making work experience available to all young people.

The council's work experience team, BEST, successfully placed over 1,165 students in work experience placements across the borough this academic year. In partnership with 11 local schools and nearly 600 employers, the programme plays a crucial role in helping young people shape their futures and build key workplace skills.

The 11 schools and colleges participating in work experience consisted of the following: x4 Wandsworth secondary schools; x1 Wandsworth Further Education College; x2 Wandsworth Pupil Referral Unit (PRU); x1 school from the Independent Sector; x2 Special Educational Needs (SEN) schools and the Wandsworth Virtual School.

Matching students with the right employer to ensure a meaningful and engaging experience is no small task, but the dedication of both the council and local businesses makes it possible every year.

Work experience is a powerful tool, helping students explore their interests, make informed choices about their career paths, and discover opportunities they may never have considered before.

Councillor Judi Gasser, Cabinet Member for Children, said: “Good work experience is essential for young people to help inform their choices about future studies and employment. London is full of incredible opportunities, and the council is committed to providing the best possible experiences and insights through our employer network.”

The Youth Council made it their ambition to expand access to jobs and placements, and this summer’s programme marks a strong step forward in realising that goal. Additional funding for 25/26 will enable there to be more support for young people to access work experience all year round.

The council connects students with opportunities in a wide range of sectors including health, law, the arts, construction, retail, and technology. This success depends on the generosity and enthusiasm of employers willing to invest in the next generation of talent.

This summer, Wandsworth Council would like to give a special shout out to some of the standout organisations who supported student placements, including: Microsoft London; Transport UK London Bus; Howden Insurance; AFC Wimbledon; Wimbledon Magistrates



Olivia and Katelyn, students from Saint John Bosco College.

Court; Business Launchpad & Tooting Works; Clapham Law; The Royal Marsden NHS Trust; Guy’s and St Thomas’ NHS Trust; Hall Chemist; Boots the Chemist Putney; Putney School of Art and Design; St Bede’s Nursery School; JoJo Maman Bébé; Now Construction and the Co-op.

The council itself also offered placements across a variety of departments including Arts and Culture, Procurement, Communities & Partnerships, Youth Participation, Corporate IT, Libraries, and the Leader’s Office.

Olivia, a student placed with the council’s Arts and Culture Team, shared her experience:

“I was hoping to learn about the different jobs in the creative industry. I especially liked the meetings with Andrew and Thembe because I’m interested in their roles and how passionate they are.

I helped at the Key Stage 1 singing event, using my Portuguese language skills which showed me how useful it is to know other languages, even when you least expect it. I also supported a Baked Bean Zumba class in the park in the heat.”

Jumpstart to Success

The service also works with young people who are Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET or at risk of NEET) and has also been supporting care experienced young people and 16–24-year-olds through a UK Shared Prosperity Funded programme called Jumpstart to Success (see page 8 for further information).



Yusuf from Ernest Bevin College with the team at Transport UK London Bus.

Work Experience and the Virtual School

The service has worked with young people from the Virtual School, supporting them further education/training, work experience, and employment.

Some highlights this year include:

- Xion who gained valuable work experience at Aerodrome Hotel
- Dean who excelled in work experience with Timpson
- Chris who went to Morleys
- Mohammed completed 2 weeks work experience at Morleys

Full Potential Youth Trailblazer

Work experience is also a key thread that runs through Full Potential (see page 9 for further details).

If you're a local employer and would like to offer a placement or find out more about how you can support Wandsworth's young people, please contact: workexperience@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk or call **020 8871 8633**.

Wandsworth's Digital Education Partnership with Apple

Digital learning has always been at the heart of developments in Children's Services, which has a long tradition of promoting the benefits of technology to schools and the wider community.

The Battersea Project, an innovative partnership initiated by the council, between Apple and local primary schools, has further accelerated and developed the excitement associated with Apple technology.

This initiative, also in partnership with Business and Education Succeeding Together (BEST), aims to empower learners with new skills for the future.

BEST Board member and Wandsworth Council's Head of Schools IT, Alex Purssey, has always been passionate about technology and the impact it can have on helping children and young people to reach their potential.

Thanks to inspirational mentoring from the Apple team, a new generation of digital creators are emerging right here in the borough.

Since the launch of the Apple Schools programme in 2022, twenty Wandsworth primary schools have benefitted from world-class technology, professional development for teachers, and innovative teaching tools such as Apple's Everyone Can Create and Everyone Can Code. Importantly, the initiative is bringing cutting-edge digital skills and tools to many children who might not otherwise have access to such opportunities. The showcase event gave pupils the opportunity to demonstrate how they use digital tools to explore, collaborate, and express their learning across a range of subjects.

The 2025–26 programme will build on existing success by continuing support for the 20 schools already involved in the initiative, offering ongoing teacher training and updated resources to ensure long-term impact. It will also introduce 6 new schools to the programme, each receiving a class set of iPads, comprehensive staff development, and full implementation of Apple's Everyone Can Create and Everyone Can Code programmes. Additionally, a new focus on accessibility will strengthen support for children

with special educational needs by integrating Apple's accessibility tools into Special Educational Needs (SEN) resource bases, helping to create a more inclusive learning environment

The Battersea Project is supported by Apple's Community Education Initiative and the BEST team.

As part of the programme, the council has also coordinated ongoing school visits to Apple's Battersea Power Station headquarters.

The City Learning Centre also provides courses to support adults/parents in the development of essential digital skills and insights into new technology. In 24/25 the CLC delivered courses to 24 adults.



Leader of the Council, Cllr Simon Hogg, said:

“ This partnership continues to transform classrooms and open up opportunities for our young people

With Apple’s support, we’re equipping more children with digital skills that are essential for the future and creating learning environments where every child can thrive. I’m proud that Wandsworth is leading the way in inclusive and innovative education. ”

Apple Primary Schools Expo and Showcase at Battersea Arts Centre July 2025.

Working as part of the Borough of Sanctuary

Wandsworth is officially a Borough of Sanctuary, accredited by City of Sanctuary UK.

Adult Education has a long tradition of supporting different communities to develop the essential skills for life and work in the UK. This focus has continued to feature in Wandsworth provision in both direct and subcontracted provision.

The Wandsworth community has demonstrated huge support for Ukrainians. Many learners have accessed provision which has helped to adjust to life in London. Similarly, there has been a significant number of migrants from Hong Kong, as well as many other countries. Our recent Matrix assessment made the following observation:

“ One thing that united all learners was how safe they said they felt at WCLL. Many learners have experienced trauma in the countries they have left behind, while others face difficulties and indeed trauma in their lives in the UK. WCLL has succeeded in creating a safe space for all. ”

Matrix Report 2025

“ The Conversation Class - Employability Focus improved my communication and interpersonal skills, particularly in the UK workplace settings. Job searching and engaging in job interviews in a new cultural environment can be very challenging. This course equipped me with confidence to engage in interviews and professional discussions. I learned techniques for writing a C.V., expressing my work experience clearly, and maintaining a professional demeanour, which are essential for success in presenting myself to potential employers ”

Ho Wang Au Yeung (Daniel)



WCLL learners in an ESOL Class.

“ I would like to highlight the friendly atmosphere in the classroom. Talking with other students and participants of the courses, along with the teacher’s support, helped me overcome my fear of speaking. Since the courses are attended by students from different countries, it was useful to learn and understand the pronunciation and accents used by different people when pronouncing the same words.

I would especially emphasise that, because the groups are small, there is always an opportunity to approach the teacher, ask a question, and receive a personal explanation of a difficult point in learning.

In my view, the WCLL courses played a decisive role in what I have now: I found a job, I feel comfortable among English-speaking people, I can start and maintain a conversation without fear. And yes, I made new friends here, who were also students of our courses. ”

Alyona Moiseyeva

Cost of Living Fund

The Service has also developed additional courses for those particularly impacted by the cost-of-living crisis. WCLL has accessed monies through the council’s Cost of Living Fund to help residents access courses to support language/communication skills, preparing for employment and enterprise, as well as courses to support well-being such as Cooking on a Budget, Sewing, Mending and Creating and Top tips for Managing the Cost-of-Living Crisis. An addition to the curriculum this year has been the Introduction to British Sign Language which has enabled participants to develop communication skills that can be used inside and outside of work. There has also been a requirement to deliver additional ESOL conversation classes. The cost-of-living programme has been delivered in a much more agile and informal way, where we encourage adults to progress to other provision.



Yuki Solle with Candance Lau and Yuki’s famous pizza with only four ingredients

Case Studies

WCLL Adult Learner, Sandra Dias E Silva, L3 Award Health and Social Care

Sandra is a hardworking learner who has previously completed a Level 1 in Health and Social Care and has progressed to Level 3.

With experience of the care sector, she is always happy to share her knowledge with other students.

Sandra said: "I feel more confident about work and life. I am proud of me. My first language is Portuguese. This is a big step in my life!"

To view Sandra's film [click here](#)

“Sandra has been a pleasure to have in class. Her communication with me and her peers has been excellent and she has a friendly approach. She is empathetic, listens to others, and punctuality and attendance has been very good. Sandra has been determined to progress further in her academic knowledge and is considering doing the Apprenticeship in Care with Lifelong Learning. I have no hesitation in nominating Sandra for Learner of the Year.”

Sandra's tutor Fatima Begum



WCLL Adult Learner, Edna Delgado Functional Skills English and Maths, Both at Level 1

Edna has worked extremely hard to achieve her functional skills qualifications to continue her learning journey to higher levels of study.

Edna's career aim is to become a social worker. Edna has made an excellent start. After volunteering with the charity Age UK, she has secured paid employment there.

To view Edna's film [click here](#)

“Edna has demonstrated a strong commitment to her studies, often going above and beyond to grasp complex concepts and assist her peers. Edna's resilience in overcoming challenges and her positive attitude makes her a role model for fellow students. I hope that by being nominated for this award, Edna will recognise that her talents have been clearly recognised, and I hope that this will motivate her to continue striving for excellence in her educational and employment journey.

For me Edna is an exceptional learner who should be recognised for her remarkable achievements throughout her time with Lifelong Learning.”

Edna's tutor Billi Rayt



WCLL Adult Learner, Chaudhry Muhammad Saeed Akhtar ESOL E2 Reading, Writing and Speaking and Listening, E3 Writing and Speaking and Listening.

Chaudhry has been a model student and was determined to learn a new language. He has achieved accreditation in ESOL and feels that he has gained confidence.

To view Chaudhry's film [click here](#)

“Chaudhry has made exceptional progress and has been dedicated to the ESOL course. He has not only improved his language skills significantly but has also demonstrated resilience and initiative in his learning journey. His ability to express ideas clearly in writing and by engaging confidently in discussions has led to Chaudhry showcasing his professional writing abilities. Chaudhry's compassionate nature is evident as he often supports his classmates, fostering a collaborative learning environment. His commitment to continuous improvement and his inspiring journey makes him a standout learner.”

Chaudhry's tutor Ifrah Sheik



WCLL Adult Learner - Fathima Francis Stephen Level2/3 Business Administration, Essential Digital Skills for Business Administration, Counselling Level 2

Fathima's commitment to learning is demonstrated in her enrolling for several courses throughout the last year at South Thames College.

To view Fathima's film [click here](#)

“Fathima is very hard working, focussed and has a lot of mental strength to keep personal difficult situations away from educational commitments. She has been an active team player, helpful and respectful towards everyone.

She has demonstrated immense resilience in her passion to learn more and more.”

Fathima's tutor Poonan Thakur



Ensuring Effective Governance Arrangements

The Wandsworth Council Lifelong Learning team is part of the Education Division within Children's Services. The Service objectives align with the Council's overall goals, specifically with regard to Children's Services, Adult Social Services, the Economic Development Office, Partnerships, and Libraries.

We have several key governance groups - the Lifelong Learning Monitoring and Advisory Group (LLMAG), the Lifelong Learning Development Group (LLDG), the Full Potential Advisory Group and the Business & Education Succeeding Together (BEST) Board. These groups ensure effective governance and maintain connections to the Council's strategic plans.

We value collaboration both locally and more widely. We actively engage with other London boroughs, particularly with colleagues from Lifelong Learning London Central (LLLC). Additionally, we greatly appreciate the support we receive from HOLEX, the leading professional body for adult community education and learning. HOLEX represents a network of over 130 adult community education providers. Their assistance is invaluable to us, and we extend our gratitude to them.



Lisa Fenaroli, Director of Education at Wandsworth Council



Adult Learning leaders and officers from the GLA collaborate at the Idea Works in Tower Hamlets, contributing to the development of the Inclusive Talent Strategy for London.

“ Adult education services act as community anchors by supporting economic development, fostering personal and professional growth, promoting social cohesion, enhancing health and well-being, and ensuring access and inclusion for all community members. These services create a more educated, skilled, and cohesive community, ultimately leading to a higher quality of life for individuals and the community as a whole. ”

Dr Susan Pember CBE,
Adult Education - The Community Anchor (HOLEX)

WandsworthLifelongLearning.org.uk

Worth a visit

Wandsworth Council Lifelong Learning

Gwynneth Morgan Centre

52 East Hill

London SW18 2HJ

t: 020 8871 8055

e: edlifelong@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk

Worth following

 facebook.com/WandsworthLifelongLearning

 twitter.com/WCBLLearning

 linkedin.com/company/wandsworth-lifelong-learning

 instagram.com/wandsworth.lifelonglearning