



Skills for Learning Professionals

# The National Reference Point for Skills for Life Professional Development



**Lifelong Learning UK**  
The Sector Skills Council for Lifelong Learning


## Working at a national and regional level to:

- Provide information on Skills for Life which is consistently up-to-date and accurate
- Provide information on the initial qualifications required by unqualified staff and continuing professional development for qualified staff
- Provide intelligence for workforce development which links information and advice to regional strategic planning
- Advise on the training needs of employees and organisations
- Inform new entrants to Skills for Life teaching of the financial incentives available to them

“An incredibly efficient service – a gold star for you!”

*Toby Cullingham*

## Communicating reform – Current Lifelong Learning UK projects include:

- **Data collection:** establishing the numbers of qualified and unqualified staff and identifying the range and level of qualifications of those in the Skills for Life workforce
  - **Professional Recognition Learning and Skills:** enabling teachers to gain recognition for prior formal learning and experience, removing the need for them to undergo inappropriate and unnecessary training. This will be available in 2006/07
  - **Training of specialist teachers – Standards and Qualifications Framework:** developing a Skills for Life pathway including subject specific initial training programmes and continuing professional development opportunities, enabling consistency and coherence in the dissemination of information and guidance on standards and specifications
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- **Revision of the minimum core:** ensuring that Initial Teacher Training programmes prepare all trainees to address the language, literacy, numeracy and information communication and technology needs of their learners
- **National external tests in literacy and numeracy:** the introduction of tests to ensure that all post-16 teachers have consistent minimum levels of literacy and numeracy themselves
- **Standards and Qualifications Framework for learning and support staff and the development of a Skills for Life pathway:** providing clarity around the roles of learning support staff and identifying appropriate qualification pathways and progression including a Skills for Life pathway
- **Professional development pathways for those teaching learners with learning difficulties and disabilities:** developing qualifications pathways and progression routes for staff working with learners with learning difficulties and disabilities
- **Skills for Life Foundation Degrees:** expanding the number and range of routes towards qualification and professionalisation of the workforce
- **Pre-service part-time training routes:** developing pre-service, part-time models of Initial Teacher Training delivery to enable flexible routes for entry to the profession

“Thank you very much for your help – your helpline has been by far the best and most comprehensive source of information on teaching – finally I understand my options!”

*Samantha Gibbs*



## Talk to us if:

- You need to review the qualifications of your employees and how they match current requirements
- You wish to enter the Skills for Life field as a teacher or support worker
- You are a practising qualified or part-qualified Skills for Life teacher and want to discuss continuing professional development
- You need to know what courses are available in your area
- You need interpretation of current government policy and initiatives

“Many thanks, indeed, for your excellent and full explanation of updated qualification requirements for ESOL teaching.”

*Michael McClure*

## Contact us:

**Lifelong Learning UK**

**The National Reference Point for  
Skills for Life Professional Development**

**Tel: 020 7936 5798**

**E-mail: [nrp@lluk.org](mailto:nrp@lluk.org)**

**Lifelong Learning UK**

5th Floor

St Andrew's House

18-20 St Andrew Street

London EC4A 3AY