

**Date of issue** 24 April 2008  
**Publication number** em-61AnthonyWTPodcastLeics.doc

## **Celebrity Chef Cooks Up Interest in Learning**

A celebrity chef is turning up the heat on work-based learning in a podcast that is now available on the Connexions Leicester Shire website:

[www.connexions-leics.org/youngpeople](http://www.connexions-leics.org/youngpeople)

Antony Worrall Thompson, host and star of numerous TV cooking programmes including 'So You Think You Can't Cook', 'Master and Servant' and 'People's Cookbook' is interviewed by an animated character who quizzes the celebrity chef about how to get on in a career in catering.

Offering straightforward advice and tips based on his career and personal experiences, Worrall Thompson says: "Catering is unlike any other career. The pace is often fast, frantic and furious – and nothing short of your best every time is acceptable. But it also offers great excitement and rewards and an outlet for your creativity to be enjoyed by others.

"My advice to young people considering a career in catering is get hands on experience in the workplace with an employer who will invest in developing your skills through an apprenticeship. The combination of real experience mixed with academic learning is a recipe for personal success."

Mary Rogers, area director, LSC Leicestershire, says: "Anthony's inspiring podcast offers young people the inside track from one of the country's most respected and successful chefs. There's no better advocate of work-based learning than someone who has seen first hand how it benefits skills in the workplace.

Rosemary Beard, chief executive, Connexions Leicester Shire, adds her support: "This podcast is a 'must see' for all young people considering a career in hospitality and catering. Anthony offers inspiration to young people, providing them with a greater insight into managing their own progression, as well as giving them a real flavour of the breadth of opportunities. We hope this podcast helps them to make up their minds about what to do next."

The podcast is approximately three minutes long and downloadable at:

[www.connexions-leics.org/youngpeople](http://www.connexions-leics.org/youngpeople)

**ends**

## **Notes to Editors**

### **Learning and Skills Council**

The LSC exists to make England better skilled and more competitive. We are responsible for ensuring the availability of high-quality education and training for everyone. We have a single goal: to improve the skills of England's young people and adults to world class standards. Our vision is that young people and adults in England have knowledge and skills matching the best in the world and are part of a truly competitive workforce. We work nationally, regionally and locally to deliver this ambition on behalf of learners and employers. Visit: [www.lsc.gov.uk/inourhands](http://www.lsc.gov.uk/inourhands)