

## **EXPERT CLASSES HELP EAST OF ENGLAND LEARNERS DEVELOP THEIR TASTE FOR EXCELLENCE**

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East of England apprentices have the chance to develop their skills beyond competence in their chosen areas. The expert classes of up to 8 learners, co-hosted by leading training providers and high profile employers (list in notes to editors) will demonstrate the difference between satisfactory skills and outstanding skills and encourage learners to strive for this difference. The expert classes will give them an insight into the latest technology and innovation in their field and underline the world class skills they will need in tomorrow's workplace.

In 2009, the From Competence to Excellence programme will build on the success of the series of 500 classes held in 2008. Expert classes are running throughout England from January to March 2009. 1200 young people across the country will participate. Through the expert class programme, training providers and employers in the region can share best practice and contribute to a lasting skills legacy. The project is also aimed at introducing potential competitors to the concept of skills competitions and increasing the number of East of England competitors within the regional and national competitions leading up to London 2011.

Helen France, Director of Apprenticeships at the LSC said: "The LSC believes that this programme will help apprentices and vocational learners to take their skills to world class levels. Understanding the difference between being competent and excellent is a crucial part of any learner's journey. Expert classes also allow trainers to develop better links with employers and really promote world class skills across a range of industries. The expert input that apprentices get in these classes will be a fantastic boost to their learning and demonstrate the real value of an Apprenticeship for their future."

There are currently 240,000 apprentices working in over 130,000 organisations in England alone, across 80 different sectors of industry. Apprenticeships are also increasingly being used as a pathway to university, often part time and with financial support from their employer whilst they continue to work.

The From Competence to Excellence programme is a stepping stone for participants, helping them move their skills levels from good to great. With the UK WorldSkills event on the horizon, some of them may even become future entrants to the UK WorldSkills Event in London in October 2011.

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### **Notes to Editors**

Expert classes in the East of England are being run in various locations in the region starting 13 January 2009 with the last course 25 March 2009. Key partners are Barnfield College, Bedford College, Cambridge Regional College, College of West Anglia, J and E Training and North Hertfordshire College with the focus on Built Environment; Cultural and Creative Arts; Engineering; Information Technology and Business Administration; Personal, Social and Hospitality Services.

**East of England Press Officer:** Sarah Leith Russell on 01234 420076.

**For further details on expert classes available across the region and country - see table below and/or Log onto [www.fcte-events.co.uk](http://www.fcte-events.co.uk)**

### **About From Competence to Excellence**

Funded by the LSC and delivered by Deloitte MCS Ltd, this project is supporting WorldSkills UK competitions by helping to build capacity and demand for skills competitions across vocational, educational training.

### **About Learning and Skills Council:**

The LSC exists to make England better skilled and more competitive. It is responsible for ensuring the availability of high-quality education and training for everyone. It has a single goal: to improve the skills of England's young people and adults to world class standards. Its 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. The LSC works nationally, regionally and locally to deliver this ambition on behalf of learners and employers.

## COURSES:

LEAD SECTOR	PROVIDER	SUB REGION	CLASS TITLE	WORLD SKILLS AREA	DATE OF CLASS
FE	College of West Anglia	Norfolk	Advanced Cutting and Colouring	Personal Social and Hospitality	25/03/2009
FE	College of West Anglia	Norfolk	Tools and Machinery for the Professional Landscaper	Built Environment	10/03/2009
FE	Cambridge Regional College	Cambridgeshire	Upskilling classes to involve the use of a range of products from the restaurant 'El Bulli' Barcelona.	Personal Social and Hospitality	11/02/2009
FE	Cambridge Regional College	Cambridgeshire	Upskilling classes to involve the use of a range of products from the restaurant 'El Bulli' Barcelona.	Personal Social and Hospitality	18/02/2009
FE	North Hertfordshire College	Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire	Plumbing - Dimensional accuracy in pipe work installation	Built Environment	13/01/2009
FE	North Hertfordshire College	Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire	Plumbing - Dimensional accuracy in pipe work installation	Built Environment	27/01/2009
FE	Barnfield College	Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire	Web Development	IT and Business Administration	10/02/2009
FE	Barnfield College	Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire	A professional workshop to promote successful floristry competitors	Cultural and Creative Arts	07/03/2009
FE	North Hertfordshire College	Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire	Understanding the basics of automotive skills to rectify faults and replace components for a range of components in competitions	Engineering	13/01/2009
FE	North Hertfordshire College	Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire	Understanding the basics of automotive skills to rectify faults and replace components for a range of components in competitions	Engineering	27/01/2009
WBL	J and E Training	Essex	Creative Cut & Colour	Personal Social and Hospitality	09/02/2009
FE	Barnfield College	Bedfordshire	The Art of Sweet Success	Personal Social and Hospitality	10/03/2009
FE	Barnfield College	Bedfordshire	The Art of Sweet Success	Personal Social and Hospitality	10/02/2009
FE	Barnfield College	Bedfordshire	The Executive Master Chef Class	Personal Social and Hospitality	10/02/2009
FE	Barnfield College	Bedfordshire	The Executive Master Chef Class	Personal Social and Hospitality	10/03/2009
FE	Bedford College	Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire	Excellent Setting & Marking out in Joinery	Built Environment	18/02/2009