



HEADLINE ACHIEVEMENTS

- In 2006-07 the full level 2 success rates for adults without a learning difficulty or disability decreased to 71.1%, from 71.7% the previous year. Over the same period, **the equivalent success rate for adults with a learning difficulty or disability increased, from 61.8% to 68.2%**. This closed the gap from 10% points to less than 3% points in 2006-07; an excellent improvement.
- In 2005-06, there was a 4% points gap in FE Success Rates for full level 2 and 3 qualifications in favour of female learners. **In 2006-07, this gap had reduced to 1% point: 69% for females, 68% for males- very close to gender parity.**
- The gender participation splits in most of our funded programmes tend to be close to parity, or mirror national trends closely.
- There are **no significant inequalities in NEET** by gender, ethnicity or disability.
- During 2006-07 there were also **no significant inequalities by gender, ethnicity or disability in our Train to Gain programme**. LSC NE are the only region to achieve an **exact 50:50 gender split** in Train to Gain; and have the **highest Train to Gain participation rate for older learners** of all regions
- The levels of 'unknown' or unrecorded information on learner ethnicity, and learning difficulty / disability, continue to decrease, and stand at **encouragingly low rates** for most of our mainstream programmes
- The % of young BME learners in FE remains, at 4.8%, **consistently higher than the equivalent BME population profile.**
- The male: female FE young learner split remains very close to **50:50**.
- The FE Success Rates for **LLDD learners were identical to those learners without a learning difficulty or disability in 2006-07 – 76%**. The parity of success rates was replicated for full Level 2 qualifications and above.
- **BME adult participation** overall in FE remains higher than the population profile, at 6.8%

- There is **no difference at all** in FE success rates for adult learners with a learning difficulty or disability and those without. This remains true for qualifications at full Level 2 and above.

ADDITIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS 2007-08:

- Equality and Diversity priorities identified and communicated in all 12 LSC NE Partnership Team areas
- 12 Partnership Team lead employees identified and trained in equality monitoring
- Equality and Diversity reports for over 85 providers completed and reported by April 2008.
- Equality and Diversity Impact Measures agreed for all learndirect centres
- 7 providers (target 5) taking part in Single Equality Scheme “Action Working” projects, covering wide geographical and sectoral spread
- Over 90 voluntary and community sector organisations engaged in proposals to increase VCS access to LSC funding
- More than 60 teachers, careers advisers and other professionals engaged in “If We Can You Can” project to address gender stereotyping in young peoples’ occupational choices
- Through close working with Regional Refugee Forum, more than 40 Refugee Community Organisations have contributed to the implementation of our strategy for Meeting the Learning and Skills Needs of Refugees and Asylum Seekers
- 67 additional providers have joined the Equality North East ‘Networking for Change’ initiative during the past few months
- 7 FE Colleges involved in pilot group to improve Faith and Community Cohesion issues in the region
- 15 UK Online Centres delivered events to raise diversity awareness and attract hard to reach learners