

Issue  
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**CAREERS NEWS**

## **WELCOME TO ISSUE 84 OF CAREERS NEWS!**

We hope that you find this edition of WYCN useful and informative. As usual, we should like to receive articles, information or your suggestions for improving WYCN.

Copy deadline is:

24 February 2012

## **STOP PRESS...**

**In 'Positive for Youth: a new approach to cross-government policy for young people aged 13 to 19'**, the Government sets out its commitment to supporting reform and the creation of a society that is more positive for youth:

- Enabling young people to inspect and report on local youth services and to help 'youth proof' Government policy.
- Funding national helpline and website services to support and provide advice to parents of teenagers.
- Funding improved brokerage between businesses and projects for young people.
- Completing the programme of 63 'Myplace' youth centres to act as hubs for a wide range of services in disadvantaged areas and developing a national approach to these hubs for transforming local services led by communities and local businesses.
- Piloting National Citizen Service which brings together 16 year olds from all backgrounds for a demanding personal and social development experience and opportunity for social action in their communities.
- Funding directly 18 voluntary sector programmes of national significance, which aim to transform the lives of young people to generate lessons for the future.
- Funding a small number of youth innovation zones to test radical new system-wide approaches to involving all local partners in supporting young people.
- Publishing annually a new set of national measures to demonstrate progress in improving outcomes for young people.

W: [http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/youngpeople/Positive for Youth/b00200933/positive-for-youth-the-statement](http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/youngpeople/Positive%20for%20Youth/b00200933/positive-for-youth-the-statement)

**National Careers Week takes place 5 - 9 March 2012.** The purpose is to promote and share good quality careers resources amongst career professionals, job seekers, parents and students. Register now to receive resources and careers information every day W: <http://nationalcareersweek.com/>

## **ALSO IN THIS EDITION OF WYCN...**

- Connexions cuts
- The new Education Bill
- National curriculum changes delayed
- New performance tables
- Changes to GCSEs
- Adopted children priority access to schools
- Further education fee loan system
- AAB students at risk of no university place
- University applications statistics
- Tuition fees and part-time students
- Scholarships and bursaries
- Welfare system changes
- Homophobic bullying report
- Apprenticeship news
- Building engagement report

There's news of further and higher education courses and open days, the latest labour market trends and much more.



## **CONNEXIONS/CAREERS**

### **CAREERS EDUCATION...**

**A recent Cegnet update explains the actions schools will need to take when the careers clauses in the current Education Bill pass into law in December** ([C 10/11](#)).

**Cegnet has produced a stage-by-stage briefing for teaching about green careers**  
W: [www.cegnet.co.uk/newsletters/oct11/files/GreenCareers.pdf](http://www.cegnet.co.uk/newsletters/oct11/files/GreenCareers.pdf)

**BT has developed a website to help students assess their communication skills,** learn why communication skills matter, and build their strengths as communicators. The Talk Gym app on Facebook gives them a chance to find out what they are like to talk to – by asking the people who know them best. Go to Responsible business, then Supporting our communities, then Learning and skills, then Free resources to see Talk Gym on page six W: [www.btplc.com](http://www.btplc.com)

### **CONNEXIONS AND CAREERS POLICY...**

**A new report from Demos states 'careers advice in schools is patchy at best, biased at worst'.** According to Demos, 'the establishment of the new National Careers Advice Service (NCAS) and the closing of the poorly performing Connexions may be a step forward, but the Government must commit to holding schools to account for their duty to provide high quality advice and guidance early enough to make a difference' ([D 10/11](#)).

**Cuts to Connexions are depriving care leavers of the support they need** to find suitable employment and training opportunities, the head of the Government's From Care2Work scheme has warned. The loss of local Connexions services is restricting careers guidance for care leavers resulting in some care leavers ending up on training courses inappropriate to their needs ([CYPN 01/11/11](#)).

**The national electronic common assessment framework (eCAF)**, which allows professionals to record details of assessments for children and young people, is to be closed ([CYPN 14/12/11](#)).

**Schools are being 'bombed' with offers to provide information, advice and guidance services.** The offers come as schools take on the legal duty to secure independent careers guidance for pupils from September 2012 ([CYPN 29/11/11](#)).

## **CAREERS INFORMATION...**

**The Chartered Insurance Institute has produced a game around risk for Year 12 students.** Discover Risk takes around 90 minutes to complete. For details and to apply W: [www.discoverrisk.co.uk/applying/board-game.aspx](http://www.discoverrisk.co.uk/applying/board-game.aspx)

**The Science Council has produced a list of useful Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) careers websites**

W: [www.futuremorph.org/downloads/Careers\\_Website\\_Checklist\\_Aug11.pdf](http://www.futuremorph.org/downloads/Careers_Website_Checklist_Aug11.pdf)

**Skills Explorer is a free online careers matching tool that includes a jobs database,** as well as LMI and vacancy information

W: [www.careersbox.co.uk/skillsexplorer/](http://www.careersbox.co.uk/skillsexplorer/)

**Free volunteer speakers from all sectors and professions are available** to talk about their jobs to students in schools and colleges. See W: [www.inspiringthefuture.org](http://www.inspiringthefuture.org)



## **EDUCATION**

### **EDUCATION POLICY...**

**The Education Bill received Royal Assent in November** ([DfE 15/11/11](#)). See the full [Education Act 2011](#)

**The new report 'Informing choice in post-16 education and learning'** aims to determine the type of information that would most effectively support learners, employers, and advice and guidance intermediaries in making choices about post 16 provision ([BIS 04/11/11](#)).

**A study by the Institute for Fiscal Studies has looked at what kind of factors influence teenagers when they make their decisions about courses** ([TES 18/11/11](#)). See the [full report](#).

**Details of Education funding for 2012-13 have been published** ([DfE 13/12/11](#)).

### **QUALIFICATIONS...**

**Changes to the national curriculum in England are to be delayed by a year.** The timetable means that instead of introducing changes for English, maths, science and PE in 2013, the revised curriculums for all subjects will be introduced in 2014. The report of the curriculum review's expert panel so far, argues for a broader curriculum to the age of 16, 'built around a core of academic subjects'. The panel suggests that currently optional subjects such as geography, history, modern foreign languages, design and technology and the arts should be studied to the age of 16 and that the development of oral language skills should be a feature of the new curriculum ([BBC 19/12/11](#)).

### **Changes to school performance tables will be introduced in 2014** (PPW 28/10/11):

- Full course GCSEs, 'established' iGCSEs and AS levels will continue to count towards school performance.
- Other courses will only count if they meet seven criteria: appropriate size – 120 or more guided learning hours; a grading scale; a minimum of 20% external assessment (which can include supervised tasks); some 'synoptic' assessment (which does not have to be externally assessed); evidence of progression potential; a proven track record in terms of take up; content appropriate for 14 to 16 year olds.
- A new and simpler system of equivalences, where qualifications that meet the above criteria will count as one; larger qualifications may be taught but will only count as one for performance table purposes.
- A maximum of two non-GCSE/iGCSE/AS qualifications for each pupil will be counted in the tables.
- Level 1 qualifications that lead to Level 2 qualifications meeting the above criteria will be included.

**Under new guidance announced by the DfE, only high quality, rigorous vocational qualifications will count in performance tables**, and they will be included on a one-for-one basis with academic qualifications. From 2014 only valued vocational qualifications that meet strict new criteria will be recognised in the tables. Qualifications will only count if ([DfE 27/10/11](#)):

- They offer pupils proven progression into a broad range of further qualifications or careers post-16, rather than narrowing students' options.
- They are the size of a GCSE or bigger.
- They have a substantial proportion of external assessment and require students to use knowledge across their subject.
- They have grades such as A\*-G (those with simple pass or fail results will be excluded).

**'Early entry to GCSE English and maths'**, a Department for Education paper, looks at the effects of a significant increase in taking GCSEs early. It looks at the statistics that show early entry candidates perform less well overall than those taking GCSEs at the end of Year 11, even when resits are taken into account ([DfE 11/11](#)).

### **Changes being made to GCSEs in England for teaching from September 2012 and being awarded in the summer of 2014**, include:

- Assessment will take place at the end of the course of study.
- Assessment for the most subjects will be in the summer only.
- 'English, English language and mathematics' will also be assessed in November.
- Any pilot qualifications that are exceptions to these arrangements will be separately identified.

In GCSE English literature, geography, history and religious studies, additional marks will be awarded for the accuracy of spelling, punctuation and grammar in questions that require extended answers – these four subjects will first be sat by candidates in January 2013 ([Ofq 13/12/11](#)).

## **SCHOOL NEWS...**

### **From September 2012 the current information and communications technology (ICT) curriculum in English schools will be dropped in favour of a new curriculum to be taught up to Year 11.**

The Education Secretary, Michael Gove, said "the inadequate grounding in computing offered by the current curriculum was in danger of damaging Britain's economic prospects". Consultation on the proposed changes will begin shortly. The aim is to get young people creating applications rather than just learning to use Word or Excel. In future, 16 year olds could be creating their own apps for smartphones and 18 year olds able to write their own simple programming language. The consultation will also need to look at the shortage of computer science teachers with the relevant skills ([BBC 11/01/12](#)).

**The Education Act will give teachers unprecedented powers to search pupils for banned items,** as well as go through their mobile phones. The act will also give teachers legal powers to tackle bad behaviour in their schools. No-notice detentions will be introduced, and teachers will be granted anonymity should any allegation be made against them ([TES 18/11/11](#)).

**England's most disadvantaged pupils, including looked after children, are set to benefit from £600 each.** The Department for Education announced that next year's Pupil Premium will increase by £112 for each pupil. Over half a million additional children will qualify for the premium as the Government has extended the Premium to cover any child that has been registered for Free School Meals (FSM) in the past six years ([DfE 12/12/11](#)).

**From next year, prospective head teachers will be able to take a new enhanced qualification to prepare them for the job.** The current qualification, the National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH), is to be overhauled to allow prospective head teachers from all types of schools the chance to develop the right skills for the job ([DfE 06/12/11](#)).

**Adopted children are to be given priority access to the school of their choice under the Government's revised admissions code.** The move means adopted children and those subject to special guardianship or residence orders will now be afforded the same provisions as children in care – who are already prioritised for school places ([CYPN 02/11/11](#)).

**Lighthouse School in Pudsey has been approved by the Department for Education** as a free school with places for up to 50 young people suffering from autism ([YEP 16/11/11](#)).

## **FURTHER EDUCATION NEWS...**

**The Further Education fee loan system is due to be introduced for the 2013/14 academic year.** It will provide loans for those aged 24 and above taking courses at Level 3 and above. The model proposed is similar to the higher education system. The maximum loan will be £4,000 rather than £9,000 (PPW 25/10/11).

**Leeds City College joined forces with The Flannel Group to open The Food Academy.** The restaurant on the third floor of fashion retailer Flannels on Vicar Lane opened on Friday 4 November and will see students put their knowledge to the test as they prepare, cook and serve locally sourced ingredients ([YEP 09/11/11](#)).

**Leeds City College is set to move part of its Thomas Danby campus to Headingley.** It also has plans to re-locate some of the Roundhay Road site to the former Alf Cooke Printworks on Hunslet Road ([YEP 10/11/11](#)).

### **Open Days**

**Fashion Retail Academy:** 25 January, 14 March, 25 April. The Academy runs full-time courses funded by the Government for students aged between 16 and 19 and is supported by some of the leading retail companies such as Marks & Spencer and Next. Register online  
W: [www.fashionretailacademy.ac.uk](http://www.fashionretailacademy.ac.uk)

**Calderdale College:** 24 January, 4.30pm to 7pm at Francis Street, Halifax. Students will be able to try out a course and find out more about studying at Calderdale College, including seeing the new Inspire Centre facilities.

## **HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS...**

**Performing arts institutions can apply for exemption from Government plans to make universities compete over students with the highest A level grades.** Most drama schools base their selection process on audition or portfolio, rather than exam results ([GD 27/10/11](#)).

**Around 25% of all new undergraduate courses fail to attract a single student, a major study has found,** with the proportion rising to 50% for joint honours programmes ([THES 08/12/11](#)).

**Students whose A level grades fall just short of AAB next year could be at risk of missing out on a university place altogether,** a number of institutions have warned. Universities responding to a recent consultation on plans for unlimited recruitment of students above the grade threshold, said schools were increasingly likely to predict AAB. Meanwhile, institutions would be happy to make offers of AAB and above to large numbers of students, since they would be a 'safe bet' and would not count towards institutions' limits on undergraduate places. As a result, students failing to meet predicted grades might struggle to gain a place, as they may not have a lower offer and, given the pressure on places, could find it impossible to secure one through clearing ([THES 08/12/11](#)).

**Graduates wanting to become science teachers are much more likely to have a biology degree than chemistry or physics,** a report by the Wellcome Trust has found. Researchers warned that Government plans to stop funding for trainee teachers who do not have at least a 2:2 degree could have serious consequences on the recruitment of sufficient numbers of physics teachers in future. At the moment, only 36% of PGCE courses require a 2:2 for entry ([TES 15/12/11](#)).

**A study has found that 60% of leading public figures in the UK have humanities, social science or arts degrees,** according to a report commissioned by the New College of the Humanities (NCH). Starting in September 2012, NCH will charge £18,000 a year for degrees in five subject areas: law, economics, history, English literature and philosophy ([THES 18/12/12](#)).

**Well over 80% of students admitted to the universities of Oxford and Cambridge last year were white,** statistics show. Earlier this year Prime Minister David Cameron, himself an alumnus of Oxford, described the low number of ethnic minority students at Oxbridge as "disgraceful" ([THES 19/12/11](#)).

**Girls do better at university if they are taught in single-sex classes, according to new research** ([Ind 27/12/11](#)).

**The number of candidates opting to study social sciences at university has slumped dramatically,** early indications for 2012 show. Figures reveal a drop of 20% compared with 2011 – from around 71,000 students to just under 57,000 ([Ind 21/12/11](#)).

**The University of Wales (UoW) will cease to exist after mounting pressure to draw a line under a series of damaging revelations.** The university was a federation of institutions across the Principality, and its constituent parts will now go their separate ways. Two - Newport and Glyndwr, in Wrexham - will become independent universities, while Swansea Metropolitan will merge with Trinity St David in Lampeter and Carmarthen ([TG 22/10/11](#)).

**The University of Wales Institute, Cardiff (UWIC),** has announced it will change its name to Cardiff Metropolitan University ([WO 10/11](#)).

**Consumer rights magazine Which? is planning an authoritative guide to British universities** ([GD 22/10/11](#)).

**Guardian university guide 2012** W: [www.guardian.co.uk/education/universityguide](http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/universityguide)

**Stonewall University Guide 2012 is now available.** It contains information on what different universities are doing to address the needs of their lesbian, gay and bisexual students  
W: [www.gaybydegree.org.uk](http://www.gaybydegree.org.uk)

### Other Courses

**So You Want To Be A Doctor?** a day of interactive seminars and workshops run by doctors and medical students, is being held at Calderdale Royal Hospital, Learning & Development Centre, at a cost of £35 for each student. The event will take place on Tuesday 14 February, between 8.45am and 5pm. It will help students prepare their university application, develop their interview skills and gain a better understanding of what it is like to be a doctor. Interested students should print off the application form and send it to Caroline Foster, Calderdale Royal Hospital to reserve a place. For details of other events in London and Manchester, costs and the application form  
W: [www.epoc.org.uk](http://www.epoc.org.uk)

**The Leeds Festival of Science** will be held at the University of Leeds from 5 to 23 March 2012  
W: [www.leeds.ac.uk/festivalofscience/](http://www.leeds.ac.uk/festivalofscience/)

## **COURSE APPLICATIONS...**

**Applications from people wanting to go to university in 2012 improved in December,** despite the trebling this year of maximum tuition fees. However, applications are still down by more than 22,000 (6.4%) compared with the same time last year ([BBC 05/01/12](#)).

**Data released by UCAS showed no sign of a surge in applications last year.** There were 700,161 applicants in the 2011 cycle, a 0.4 % increase on the previous year. A total of 492,030 students were offered a place, an increase of 1% on the previous year, with 70.3% of all applicants accepted on to a course. However, applications to defer entry for a year fell by more than 40% as students looked to avoid higher tuition fees in 2012. Mary Curnock Cook, UCAS chief executive, said: "Application rates provide no evidence of the predicted 'scramble for places' before the introduction of new fee arrangements in 2012. Securing a place in higher education remains competitive, but recent declines in the acceptance rate were arrested in 2011." UCAS estimates that about 32% of the UK's 18 year olds applied in the 2011 cycle (THES 22/12/11).

**University applications in Yorkshire have fallen sharply following the massive rise in tuition fees.** Official figures released by UCAS show the county's biggest fall in university applications in more than 30 years, with a decrease of 17.3% compared with last year's level. The statistic is more than double the fall in the south east, where numbers are down by only 8.1%. Yorkshire was second only to the East Midlands, which has seen a 20% decrease in applications ([YEP 27/10/11](#)).

**GTR stats show that applications for teaching courses overall have fallen by 30% compared with the same period in 2010.** The £20k bursary, aimed at graduates with a first-class degree in the 'shortage' subjects – chemistry, physics, maths and languages has failed to attract interest. Future teachers of dance, drama, art, and design and technology will qualify for up to £9,000 if they have a first-class degree, but those who want to teach psychology, media studies, and health and social care will be entitled to nothing ([THES 24/11/11](#)).

**UCAS Extra is an opportunity for applicants to apply for another course if they have used all five choices and do not hold any offers.** Extra is open from 24 February until the end of June W: [www.ucas.ac.uk](http://www.ucas.ac.uk)

## **STUDENT FINANCE...**

**Students can now apply for finance for 2012/13;** they don't need a confirmed place at university or college. Find out what help is available by going to Education and Learning then University and Higher Education W: [www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk)

**The Student Loans Company is contacting some of its customers by telephone amid concerns about a fraud attack.** The company says it is calling those customers whom it has 'identified as being at risk of having their details compromised'. The student loan system is facing sustained 'phishing' attacks, with 1,400 websites shut down this year. Customers are being told to be 'vigilant with their personal details' ([BBC 14/12/11](http://BBC 14/12/11)).

**From 2012, eligible part-time students will be able to borrow the full cost of their tuition fees for the first time,** subject to parliamentary approval ([BIS 26/10/11](http://BIS 26/10/11)).

**The University of Worcester is offering all students with two As and a B, a £1,000 fee waiver in their first year at university in 2012.** If they do well during their first year, they could also be eligible for a scholarship ([Ind 14/11/11](http://Ind 14/11/11)).

**Trainee educational psychologists will have their tuition fees paid and have access to training bursaries as part of £16m Government funding.** The announcement of funding, which will be available over the next three years, follows a review of training and funding for the profession ([CWDC 20/11/11](http://CWDC 20/11/11)).

**The Institute of Physics and the Department for Education are offering 100 scholarships to increase the number of physics teachers.** The scholarships, worth £20,000, are aimed at graduates with a first or 2:1 degree intending to do an Initial Teacher Training (ITT) course. Around 1,000 new physics teachers are needed every year for the next 15 years to meet the requirement of schools ([DfE 09/11/11](http://DfE 09/11/11)).



## **HEALTH**

### **HEALTH PROBLEMS/DISABILITY...**

**Platform, a specialist young people's drug and alcohol service working with young people up to the age of 18,** has opened in Leeds City Centre W: [www.platformleeds-online.org.uk](http://www.platformleeds-online.org.uk)

**The NHS Commuter Walk-In Centre,** at the Light shopping centre in Leeds has closed ([YEP 20/12/11](http://YEP 20/12/11)).



## **HOUSING**

**Young homeless people from Touchbase have developed an A-Z series to warn other people about the harsh realities of being homeless.** They've created the A-Z to help educate and prevent other people from becoming homeless W: [www.homelesstoz.org](http://www.homelesstoz.org)



## **LAW, YOUR RIGHTS and CITIZENSHIP**

**West Yorkshire Police has launched a new non-emergency telephone number '101'.** The number aims to help the public find the help they need or get through to the correct department at the first time of calling ([YEP 17/11/11](#)).



## **MONEY**

**People who find themselves out of work for more than two years could be forced to take up community work or lose their benefits** ([YP 09/11/11](#)).

**For details of the proposed social security benefits rates for 2012 please click** ([DWP 13/12/11](#)).

**Subject to passage of the Welfare Reform Bill 2011**, lone parents with a youngest child aged five or over will no longer be entitled to receive Income Support (IS) solely on the grounds of being a lone parent. Currently it is seven and over (DWP 15/12/11).

**The Government will open a Junior Individual Savings Accounts for every young person who has been in care for more than a year.** The first accounts will be opened on behalf of looked after children in 2012 with an initial payment of £200 ([DfE 01/11/11](#)).



## **RELATIONSHIPS**

**A new report on homophobic bullying in schools found that young people felt that homophobic bullying was not always dealt with effectively by schools.** It suggested that staff were in need of management support to raise awareness about sexuality issues in school and youth work organisations ([SH 17/11/11](#)).

**The NSPCC has produced an Arabic version of their 'Worried about a child' booklet** W: [www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/publications/worried\\_about\\_a\\_child\\_wda50783.html](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/publications/worried_about_a_child_wda50783.html)



## **WORK AND TRAINING**

### **TRAINING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE...**

**Business Secretary Vince Cable has announced details of how Government funding will support thousands of Apprenticeships up to degree equivalent.** £18.7m from the Higher Apprenticeship Fund will support the development of 19,000 new Higher Apprenticeships in sectors including construction, advanced engineering, insurance and financial services ([BIS 01/12/11](#)).

**From August, the first 20 employers began running their Apprenticeships on a payment-by-results system.** The employers will absorb the cost of training until students complete their courses successfully and then the Skills Funding Agency will release the funds ([TES 09/09/11](#)).

**Grants of £1,500 will be offered to small businesses to encourage them to take on 16 to 24 year olds apprentices.** Every Apprenticeship will be required to include literacy and numeracy to GCSE level, instead of level 1 ([TES 19/11/11](#)).

**Around 12.5% of young people with an Advanced Level Apprenticeship went into higher education,** according to HEFCE-funded research by the University of Greenwich. The University has been following 150,000 apprentices since 2006. The research also found that students who enter HE having completed an Advanced Level Apprenticeship are more likely to live in disadvantaged areas than HE students generally. In the last four years 36% more young people completed their Advanced Level Apprenticeships (C 15/11/11).

**The De Vere Academy of Hospitality is opening in Leeds in March 2012.** It offers Intermediate Apprenticeships in Customer Service or Professional Cookery for 16 to 24 year olds. The Academy is looking for young people who are ambitious and committed. No specific qualifications are required to join any of the programmes. See their website for more information. Specific details about the new Leeds Academy will be added soon but potential applicants willing to travel to Leeds can still register their interest in training. T: 0844 9800493  
W: [www.devereacademy.co.uk](http://www.devereacademy.co.uk)

### Open Days

**Calderdale College:** 9 February, 4.30pm to 7pm at Francis Street, Halifax. Students will be able to find out more about studying for an Apprenticeship through Calderdale College and the current vacancies on offer. They will also have the opportunity to see the facilities including the new Inspire Centre.

### **UNEMPLOYMENT...**

**'Building Engagement, Building Futures: our strategy to maximise the participation of 16-24 year olds in education, training and work'**, aims to help young people succeed in education and training and gain the skills they need to secure an Apprenticeship or employment. It includes radical reforms to schools, vocational education, skills and welfare provision. It sets out the Government's plans for ([BIS 15/12/11](#)):

- Achieving full participation of 16 and 17 year olds in education and training.
- Helping 18 to 24 year olds to engage in education and training.
- Supporting 18 to 24 year olds into employment.
- Supporting 18 to 24 year olds on inactive benefits and those in disadvantaged groups.

**In November, youth unemployment broke through the 1m mark,** to a record high and the UK's wider unemployment rate has climbed to a 15-year high ([GD 16/11/11](#)).

**Around 73% of businesses and 84% of workers believe there is a permanent underclass emerging,** for whom a poor education and background leaves them largely unemployable, according to a survey of 1,000 UK employees and 500 employers ([GD 17/1/11](#)).

**A Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) survey of 49,000 UK graduates from 2007,** has found that 3.5% were unemployed three and a half years later, up from 2.6% in a 2008 survey of graduates from 2005.

### **JOB HUNTING...**

**Proud employers has been launched.** It is a new job site and careers guide for gay jobseekers

W: [www.proudemployers.org.uk/job-site-careers-guide-gay-jobseekers/](http://www.proudemployers.org.uk/job-site-careers-guide-gay-jobseekers/)

## **SELF-EMPLOYMENT...**

**Business Minister Mark Prisk announced new investment to recruit and train an additional 10,000 volunteers to become business mentors** ([BIS 16/11/11](#)).

**Wildfire offers free self-employment help to young people.** It also offers the chance to win an Apple iPad whether they are unemployed, in school, further or higher education, or already working. Wildfire puts young people in touch with experienced business advisers, who can consult on all areas of starting a business. Contact Martin Hathaway T: 0113 394 7979  
E: [martin@yes2enterprise.com](mailto:martin@yes2enterprise.com) W: [www.wildfirehub.com](http://www.wildfirehub.com)

**Teenbiz aims to help young people start their own businesses.** Every month two students will receive up to £500 start up funding. Contact: Sarah Moss T: 01274 787921  
E: [sarahmoss@sbvs.org.uk](mailto:sarahmoss@sbvs.org.uk) W: [www.teenbiz.org.uk](http://www.teenbiz.org.uk)

## **EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS...**

**Business Link's regional advisory offices closed on 25 November 2011.** They have been replaced by their website, which it claims is 'simple to use, up to date and practical'. As well as employment information, the website also has a number of online tools, such as an employment status indicator and calculators for maternity and additional paternity pay  
W: [www.businesslink.gov.uk](http://www.businesslink.gov.uk)

## **WORK TRENDS NATIONAL...**

**UK unemployment rose** by 128,000 in the three months to October to 2.64m. The rate of unemployment was 8.3%, up from 7.9% ([BBC 15/12 /11](#)).

**The Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) expects unemployment to rise.** The OBR expects unemployment to increase from 8.1% to 8.7% in 2012 before dropping back to 6.2% in 2016. The OBR expects the economy to grow by 0.7% in 2012 down from the 2.5% it previously predicted. Growth is expected to start increasing in 2013, rising to 3% by 2015 (HDE 30/11/11).

**Nationally the number of 16 to 24 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEET) rose to 1,163,000** by the third quarter of 2011 (HDE 25/11/11).

**Job vacancies were 17% higher in December 2011 when compared with December 2010,** according to recruitment consultancy Reed's Job Index. Between 2010 and 2011, engineering showed the most significant rise in job prospects (+64), followed by IT and telecoms (+50). The public sector, banking and education were the only sectors showing decreases of -10 or more (ICG 10/01/12).

**Business start-ups are expected to outnumber business failures by four to one.** A survey by Creditsafe, the business intelligence expert, shows that insolvencies are likely to be up by 4% in 2011 when compared with 2010, whilst start-ups are expected to increase by 18% or 471,466 (HDE 06/12/11).

**The Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD) has forecast a fall of 120,000 in the number of people in employment in 2012.** This would mean UK unemployment would rise to 2.85m and youth unemployment to 0.92m. CIPD also suggests that the public sector would lead the likely job losses (ICG 10/01/12).

**Europe needs to invest in the knowledge economy.** The knowledge economy is

important in the creation of jobs in the future, according to the European commissioner responsible for research, innovation and science. The European Commission is investing £6bn in 16,000 universities, research teams and businesses. It is estimated that a million new research jobs will be needed to match global rivals in areas such as health, energy and the digital economy ([BBC 10/01/12](#)).

### **Administration, Business & Office Work**

**The Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA)** is to close 39 regional offices with the loss of 1,200 jobs from its 6,100 workforce. The DVLA has offices in Beverley, Leeds and Sheffield. All 52 staff at the Leeds office will lose their jobs (HDE, YEP 14/12/11, [BBC 13/12/11](#)).

### **Building & Construction**

**The construction sector held up unexpectedly well in 2011**, as public sector work did not fall as strongly as expected. The decline in 2012 is expected to be more marked due to the Building Schools for the Future projects beginning to come to an end and the lower levels of funding for affordable housing in England begin to have an impact. The continued weakness in the private sectors isn't expected to offset the 'marked falls' in public sector work. However, work on a number of infrastructure schemes is expected to increase, and work has restarted on a couple of high-profile office developments in London (CSN 01/12).

### **Catering & Hospitality**

**Little Chef**, the motorway restaurant group, is to close 67 of its 161 outlets and make between 500 and 600 full and part-time job cuts. The outlets are making a loss due to where they are sited and the state of the economy ([BBC 11/01/12](#)).

**Greene King**, the owner of Hungry Horse and Loch Fyne restaurants, plans to create 3,000 jobs when it opens 150 new pubs and restaurants, bringing the total to 1,100. The company expects eating out to move more down market (HDE 02/12/11).

**Starbucks** plans to create up to 5,000 jobs by 2016 when it opens more drive-through coffee outlets, increasing the number from nine to 200 (HDE 01/12/11).

**Marston's**, the brewery, expects to continue expanding in 2012 and will need 1,000 more staff to work in the 25 pubs it plans to build ([BBC 01/12/11](#)).

**Hilton Hotels** plans to open 20 hotels in the UK, creating around 1,500 jobs. It plans to open 110 hotels across Europe by 2014, creating 8,500 jobs ([BBC 29/11 11](#)).

### **Computers & IT**

**Everything Everywhere**, the mobile phone group formed by the merger of Orange and T-Mobile in the UK, is to cut 550 back office staff, 4% of its workforce, from its sites in Bristol, Darlington, Hatfield and Paddington. Around 80% of the jobs are permanent, the remaining 20% are contract staff ([BBC 02/11/11](#)).

### **Engineering**

**Ferguson shipbuilders** has won a contract to build hybrid ferries that are part battery powered, creating around 100 jobs in Glasgow ([BBC 06/12/11](#)).

**Carillion**, the energy services company, is to cut jobs following the halving of the solar panel

subsidy. Around 1,500 of its 4,500 staff will lose their job (HDE 02/12/11).

**Toyota** is investing £100m in the factory at Burnaston, Derbyshire to make its new family hatchback. Around 1,500 new jobs are expected to be created by the end of 2013 – the first 500 people will be recruited in the summer (HDE 25/11/11).

**British Gas** plans to cut 850 jobs in its services business and a further 270 jobs in other parts of its business (HDE 17/11/11, [BBC 06/12/11](#)).

**Airbus** has said demand for its A350 passenger plane mean it will create 200 engineering jobs at its base in Filton near Bristol ([BBC 06/12/11](#)).

**Jaguar Land Rover** is to create 1,000 new production and skilled trades jobs at its Land Rover plant in Solihull (HDE 11/11/11).

**Carphone Warehouse** is to close 11 Best Buy stores across the UK. The move affects 1,100 jobs at the outlets, which sell electronic goods, but the firm said it hoped to find most staff alternative work ([BBC 07/11/11](#)).

### Financial Services

**Citigroup**, the US banking giant, is cutting 4,500 jobs globally to reduce costs ([BBC 07/12/11](#)).

**RBS** is closing a site in Bristol with the loss of 330 jobs, part of 3,000 job losses it announced in 2010 ([BBC 29/11/11](#)). RBS announced plans to cut a further 3,500 jobs, with most to go this year. The cuts are part of a reorganisation of its investment bank. The job losses will be split between its UK and international office. Its 'wholesale banking' business, which provides services to large clients including investment banking services, will be split into separate 'markets' and 'international banking' divisions, and will be reduced in size. The bank has already cut 30,000 jobs over the last two years, 22,000 of them in the UK ([BBC 12/01/12](#)).

### Personal services, cleaning, burial, hair and beauty

**Tesco** has opened hair and beauty treatments in some of its stores, including selling professional shampoo and conditioning products. The move is seen by some as a threat to independent hair and beauty businesses (SPG 18/11/11).

### Healthcare

**The Royal College of Nursing (RCN)** data showed 56,058 jobs have been axed or face cuts across the UK ([YEP 21/11/11](#)).

### Leisure, Sport & Tourism

**Luminar**, the owner of Liquid, Oceana and Lava & Ignite nightclubs has gone into administration putting 3,000 jobs at risk ([YEP 27/10/11](#)).

**Thomas Cook** is closing 115 branches over the next two years and is considering closure of another 50 branches in a bid to reduce its £1bn debt (DR 16/12/11).

### Manufacturing & Production

**More than 25% of the 100 top oil and gas companies say they may recruit more**

**than 500 staff in the next two years.** More than 87% said they were likely to grow. The main barrier to growth was said to be a lack of 'highly skilled' workers, according to a report by Lloyds Bank Corporate Markets ([BBC 05/01/12](#)).

**UK manufacturing saw a smaller-than-expected decline in December,** due to new orders from Germany, China and Eastern Europe. The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rose to 49.6 from 47.7 in November due to a growth in new export orders ([BBC 03/01/12](#)).

**Kraft Foods** is to cut 200 jobs through redeployment from March 2012 to March 2014. The cuts are part of reorganisation plans that will see £6m invested in biscuit manufacture in Sheffield and £44m in chocolate manufacture in Bournville (HDE 07/12/11).

**Nestlé** is investing £110m in Nescafe Dolce Gusto site in Hatton, Derbyshire, creating 300 jobs by 2013 ([BBC 03/01/12](#)).

### **Media, Print & Publishing**

**BBC** is making four editors redundant as part of its restructuring to save money. Restructuring will also see 120 jobs at BBC Scotland shed by 2017, with 30 of these to be from the news team ([TD 10/01/12](#)).

### **Retail Sales & Customer Services**

**More than 20,000 high street jobs have disappeared in the past year.** The downturn in consumer spending saw retailers cut posts, reduce part-time workers hours and in extreme cases close stores ([GD 27/10/11](#)).

**La Senza** has been sold saving 1,100 jobs ([BBC 10/01/12](#)).

**Blacks Leisure** briefly entered administration as part of a take over deal. The company owns 98 Blacks outlets, 208 Millets stores and the Peter Storm and Eurohike brands. It employs around 3,500 people. The deal is expected to lead to job losses at Blacks' head office and warehouse in Northampton ([BBC 06/01/12](#)).

**Barratts and Priceless Shoes** went into administration with the loss of 1,610 jobs when it closed its 371 concessions. The company is based in Bradford and has 173 stores in the UK. It has already closed 18 stores ([BBC 30/12/11](#)).

**Inditex**, owner of **Zara** opened 358 new stores across the UK, Europe, Azerbaijan, South Africa and Taiwan, bringing the total of stores to 5,402 (HDE 15/12/11).

**DFS** plans to open seven new stores creating 300 new jobs ([Ins 15/12/11](#)).

**Morrisons**, the supermarket chain, is to create more than 7,000 new jobs as it grows its store network by 25 in 2012 ([BD15/12/11](#)).

**Arcadia**, the retail group which includes BHS, Burtons, Dorothy Perkins, Evans, Miss Selfridge and Top Shop, plans to close 260 outlets in the UK. Arcadia has 2,500 stores and employs 44,000 people. The group also plans to open new stores in 2012 (HDE 25/11/11).

**Poundland** recruited 2,000 temporary staff to work during the run-up to Christmas (SpG 25/11/11). Poundland plans to open more stores across the UK creating more than 1,800 jobs ([Ins 02/11/11](#)).

## Transport & Logistics

**SeaFrance** has gone into liquidation with the loss of 127 jobs in Dover. Eurotunnel has not ruled out a future bid for the cross-channel ferry firm, which employs nearly 1,000 people. SeaFrance had four ferries sailing between Dover and Calais, carrying more than 3.5m passengers a year ([BBC 09/01/02](#)).

## **WORK TRENDS REGIONAL...**

**Yorkshire and the Humber lost 17,000 public sector jobs between October 2010 and October 2011**, according to a survey by PricewaterhouseCoopers (HDE 22/10/11).

**Yorkshire and the Humber's employers are optimistic about hiring people when compared with the North West.** Manpower's quarterly Employment Outlook showed that plus 4% (more expected to recruit than not recruit) of the region's employers expect to recruit, whereas in the North West it was minus 5% (fewer would be recruiting than not recruiting) (HDE 13/12/11).

**Business start-ups in Yorkshire last year are expected to be above a number of other regions.** A survey by Creditsafe, the business intelligence expert, suggests that Yorkshire and the Humber saw 28,802 new businesses in 2011 compared with 26,253 in Scotland, 19,870 in East Midlands, 11,711 in the North East, 8,868 in Wales and 5,350 in Northern Ireland (HDE 06/12/11).

**West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority** is to close 10 stations with the loss of up to 100 firefighter jobs. Already agreed is the loss of 24 jobs, all voluntary retirement or redundancy, when Brighouse and Elland stations close and a new base opens in Rastrick (HDE 17/12/11).

**Yorkshire is to be a target for some of the 2,000 new jobs being created through the opening of new Starbucks sites in the North and Midlands** ([Ins 02/12/11](#)).

**John Lewis has confirmed that it is committed to investing £60m in Yorkshire in the coming years**, creating 1,000 jobs, with plans for stores at three sites across the region ([Ins 09/11/11](#)).

**Two new power stations are planned for Yorkshire.** The new power stations planned for Ferrybridge near Wakefield and Thorpe Marsh near Doncaster will create 1,000 new jobs (SpG 04/11/11).

## **FOCUS ON CALDERDALE & KIRKLEES...**

**The number of people out of work and claiming Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) in Calderdale** in November 2011 was 6,305 or 4.8% of the working population, slightly up on October. In **Kirklees** the number of people claiming JSA was 12,033 or 4.5%, also slightly up (N 14/12/11).

**The number of young unemployed aged between 18 and 24 claiming JSA rose by 1.8% in Calderdale** since November 2010. In **Kirklees** it rose by 1.4%. Bradford was up by 2% and Wakefield saw a 1.8% rise over the same period (HDE 09/12/11).

## Job Gains

**Pets at Home** has opened a new store in Birstall creating 18 jobs (SpG 02/12/11).

**Marston's**, the brewery company, is opening one of 25 new pubs under its Pitcher and Piano,

and Tavern Table brands, in Cleckheaton. The Cleckheaton-based pub will create 12 new jobs, including a food manager (DR 09/12/11).

**The Reactiv Group**, the Elland call centre and creative digital company, plans to recruit 1,200 new staff. It has begun by recruiting over 100 new call centre staff (HEC 30/11/11).

**Calderdale Council** recruited 10 permanent staff in its children's social care department, and six social workers (HEC 29/11/11).

**Home Bargains**, the cut price store, opened a branch at the Gallagher Retail Park in Huddersfield creating 30 new jobs (HDE 26/11/11).

**A-Safe (UK) Ltd**, the manufacturer of polymer safety barriers, is moving to Elland from Halifax with its 42 employees. Around 12 of the staff were recruited in 2011 and more staff will be recruited in 2012 (HEC 24/11/11).

**Bargainworld** opened in Huddersfield's Packhorse Centre creating up to 20 new jobs (HDE 26/11/11).

**Pandora**, the jewellery company opened a new store in Huddersfield, employing nine staff (HDE 12/11/11).

**The Taste Cafe** in Cleckheaton is opening as a deli and licensed premises, creating 10 new jobs (DR 28/10/11).

**Poundstretcher** opened a new store at Castlemoor Retail Park in Huddersfield, creating 25 jobs, some part-time. The Poundstretcher head office is also in Huddersfield and employs 400 staff (HDE 21/10/11).

### Job Losses

**Parfitts Bakery** branches in Halifax and Bradley, Huddersfield have closed with the loss of around 10 jobs (HEC 20/12/11).

**Calderdale Council** is cutting 30 full-time jobs when it reorganises its support services (HEC 16/12/11).

**Thomas Cook** is closing one of its two Dewsbury branches and one of its Huddersfield branches with the loss of 14 jobs (DR 16/12/11, HDE 15/12/11).

**Going Places** in Halifax is closing with the loss of 10 jobs (HEC 15/12/11).

**Ceramic Prints Ltd**, the Brighouse tile firm, has been bought by British Ceramics. The combined workforce of 430 staff will be reduced by up to 100 jobs (HDE 23/11/11).

### **FOCUS ON LEEDS...**

**Leeds Economy Handbook is now available to download** ([LCC 14/11/11](#)).

**The Government is pumping £10.3m into the creation of two new train stations which could lead to over 2,000 new jobs.** The scheme includes the building of a railway station at Kirkstall Forge, that could create 2,400 new jobs first in construction, and then in permanent office, shop and leisure roles. A second station will be created at Apperley Bridge in Bradford ([YEP 20/11/11](#)).

**The revamp of the Merrion Centre is expected to create a 'significant' number of jobs** ([YEP 28/10/11](#)).

**More than 1,500 new jobs have been created at Capitol Park in south Leeds,** according to developer Stirling Capitol ([Ins 10/11/11](#)).

### **Job Gains**

**Direct Law & Personnel (DLP)** opened an office in Leeds creating five jobs. The company specialises in providing advice on personnel issues ([YEP 09/11/11](#)).

**KFC** has opened in the Merrion Centre, creating 80 jobs ([YEP 06/01/12](#)).

**A new recycling plant in Morley has created 50 new jobs** ([YEP 09/11/11](#)).

**James Latham**, the timber retailer, is opening a new operation in Leeds creating 50 jobs ([Ins 10/11/11](#)).

**Ryanair** has invested another £70m in Leeds Bradford International Airport creating 60 jobs in the process ([Ins 04/11/11](#)).

**Leeds Bradford Airport** is investing £11m in an expansion programme creating 100 construction jobs ([Ins 07/12/11](#)).

**Strategic Team Group**, the Property contractor, has recruited 35 new staff across its business and plans to make more additions to its teams in 2012 ([BD 20/12/11](#)).

**Xercise4less**, the budget gym group, is to create 80 jobs with the opening of its new Yorkshire headquarters and fitness club ([BD 20/12/11](#)).

### **Job Losses**

**The Forensic Science Service (FSS)** is to close, causing the loss of more than 1,600 jobs - including 200 in Wetherby ([YEP 01/11/11](#)).

**Eddie Stobart**, the haulage firm with a depot in Leeds, plans to cut 89 jobs when it closes. These are some of the 235 facing the axe by Stobart in the north, mainly drivers but also some office workers ([YEP 10/11/11](#)).

**West Yorkshire Trading Standards** lost its contract to provide a Yorkshire consumer advice line with the loss of 40 jobs ([YEP 18/11/11](#)).

**Yodel**, the parcel giant, plans to close its service centre in Morley, the plans mean the jobs of 98 permanent staff are now hanging in the balance ([YEP 16/11/11](#)).

**Morfitts**, the Leeds-based building services engineering firm, which has struggled to find work is cutting 55 jobs ([YEP 06/12/11](#)).

**Harry Ramsden's** in Guiseley shut its doors after Christmas with the loss of 24 jobs. The move does not affect the rest of the group ([GD 30/11/11](#)).



## **EDUCATION and TRAINING...**

**The Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC) took over the ownership and management of the Early Years Professional Status (EYPS) programme and associated contracts in October 2011;** it will continue to run it until 31 March 2012. From April 2012, the new Teaching Agency will take responsibility for the programme and associated contracts. Full details of EYPS training providers including their contact details and details of their geographical delivery areas is available on the CWDC website W: [www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/early-years/eypsproviders](http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/early-years/eypsproviders)

**The pass mark for the English and maths tests to be sat by people interested in training to teach who do not have a GCSE grade C or above,** will rise from September 2012. Students will have to pass this before they start training and only be allowed to re-sit assessments twice. A new test will be introduced in 2013 (DfE 08/11/11).

## **FINANCIAL SERVICES...**

**Ernst & Young is offering four training opportunities for students leaving school or college:**

- EY School Leaver programme for those with A levels, with five years training leading to professional accountancy qualifications.
- EY Degree programme at Lancaster University leading to a BSc Hons in Accounting, Auditing and Finance, which includes 18 months paid work experience and an accelerated route to a professional qualification.
- EY Scholarship for those going to university to do other degrees. This includes £1,000 for each academic year and three work placements in the summer. Many will then be offered a job.
- EY Insight Day enabling students to spend a day in Ernst & Young.

W: [www.ey.com/uk/careers](http://www.ey.com/uk/careers)

**From 2013 financial advisers must have a Financial Services Authority recognised Level 4 qualification in order to practice.** Previously a professional qualification at level 3 was acceptable. Between 10% and 20% of advisers are thought not to be updating their qualification and leaving the industry, suggesting new recruits will be needed urgently. Aviva is running a Future Adviser Programme (FAP). The Financial Adviser School is also running training via an 18 month full-time course, which has two start dates a year.

For further information W: [www.directions.org.uk/careers/financial-planning](http://www.directions.org.uk/careers/financial-planning)

## **SECURITY and ARMED FORCES...**

**Women are to be allowed to serve as submariners in 2013.** The first female officers will serve on Vanguard-class submarines and female ratings will begin serving on Astute-class submarines from 2015. Around 9% (3,420) of Navy personnel are women. Women were excluded from submarines because of health concerns linked to carbon dioxide and the months spent at sea but this is now thought to be 'unfounded' ([BBC 13/12/11](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-131211)).

## SOURCES

<b>BBC</b>	<a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/news">www.bbc.co.uk/news</a>
<b>BD</b>	Business Desk
<b>BIS</b>	Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
<b>C</b>	Cegnet
<b>CSN</b>	ConstructionSkills Network
<b>CWDC</b>	Children's Workforce Development Council
<b>CYPN</b>	Children & Young People Now
<b>D</b>	Demos
<b>DfE</b>	Department for Education
<b>DR</b>	Dewsbury Reporter
<b>DWP</b>	Department for Work and Pensions
<b>GD</b>	The Guardian/online
<b>HEC</b>	Halifax Evening Courier
<b>HDE</b>	Huddersfield Daily Examiner
<b>ICG</b>	Institute of Career Guidance
<b>Ind</b>	The Independent/online
<b>Ins</b>	Insider
<b>N</b>	Nomis
<b>Ofq</b>	Ofqual
<b>PPW</b>	Pearson Pocket Watch
<b>SH</b>	Sheffield Hallam
<b>SpG</b>	Spensborough Guardian
<b>TD</b>	The Drum
<b>TES</b>	Times Educational Supplement
<b>THES</b>	Times Higher Educational Supplement
<b>TG</b>	The Telegraph
<b>WO</b>	WalesOnline
<b>YEP</b>	Yorkshire Evening Post

We hope you enjoyed this edition of West Yorkshire Careers News and found it informative. Please note: **West Yorkshire Careers News is also available on the company websites below.** Comments and articles are welcome; please contact the careers company in your area:

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