

# Lifelong Learning and Employability and Communities Team



**Lasswade Team Update**

**September 2017**

## **HNC Working with Communities**

*Do you want to get a qualification? Why not sign up for a part –time study course*

**Starts Tuesday 12th September 2017**

**Newbattle Community Centre - 2.30pm-8.30pm**

If you are working or volunteering with community based groups this course is designed to provide you with an opportunity to gain a professional qualification in Community Learning & Development. You will undertake a placement in Youth Work, Adult Education or Community Work in either the statutory or the voluntary sector to give you valuable practical experience.

For further information please contact

[Sharon.dalgleish@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Sharon.dalgleish@midlothian.gov.uk) or 0131 270 5623



## **Online booking**

We are now using Eventbrite online booking for our Aim High Programme please check the undernoted website to check availability

<https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/classes>

## **Employability Award**

We are coming to the end of another successful Employability Award with four young adults achieving SQA certificates at levels 3 or 4.

We will be running another 12 week course starting in September for adults who have additional support needs. This will be on a Wednesday afternoon, venue to be confirmed .If you want more information, or you want to make a referral please contact Alistair McDonald on 0131 271 4535 or email

[Alistair.mcdonald@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Alistair.mcdonald@midlothian.gov.uk)

# Opportunities for Adults and Families

## **Adult Literacies, Numeracy and ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Service— free learning for adults across Midlothian**

Learners can improve skills needed to get into work, or to achieve personal goals like going to college. There's also the opportunity to work towards recognised Scottish Qualification Authority qualifications, including Communications, ESOL and Numeracy.

Classes and one to one sessions are available in centres throughout Midlothian. Groups in the Lasswade and Loanhead areas have included the Ready for Retail course in partnership with IKEA, and ESOL support in Loanhead Library.

Recent successes have included learners passing the new pilot qualification, the Adult Achievement awards. Learners on the Core Skills for Employability project have gained entrance to Newbattle College courses after working on their interview skills and writing application forms.

Many ESOL learners passed the new National ESOL qualifications, with results from level 2 to level 5. The Syrian Refugee Resettlement Programme is progressing well.

In June all of Midlothian Council's learners were invited to attend a Celebration of Learning event to receive certificates of achievement from Dalkeith's Provost.

If you are interested in improving your reading, writing, numbers and computer skills then contact Neil Saddington on 0131 270 8904 or email [neil.saddington@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:neil.saddington@midlothian.gov.uk)

If your first language isn't English and you want to improve your skills, please contact Clare Cameron on 0131 270 8906 or email [clare.cameron@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:clare.cameron@midlothian.gov.uk)

## **Focus Team**

The Focus Team provide a 1:1 support service for adults (16 to 64 years) who are experiencing barriers in getting into training, education or employment. The criteria for qualifying for assistance is that they have a disability/health condition or are experiencing barriers such as literacy, numeracy, lack of skills etc. Support can be given both on a 1:1 basis and in groups to identify goals and vocational plans, secure work experience and support with getting into employment, education and training. Referrals should be made to [llefocus@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:llefocus@midlothian.gov.uk)

**Contact the Lasswade team for more information on 0131 271 4535**

# Opportunities for Young People

## Youth Clubs

All youth clubs will resume week commencing 18th September 2017, if you require any further information please contact [Nicola.grant@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Nicola.grant@midlothian.gov.uk)

Bonnyrigg 6s and 7s for all P6-P7s starts back on Thursday 21/9/17 at Bonnyrigg Primary School from 6.15-7.45pm. 50p admission payable every week.

## Young Person's Career Drop In

If you are 16—20 years old and would like help searching for jobs, updating your CV, completing application forms or advice about the next steps then come along to Lasswade Library on Tuesdays from 3-5pm. No need to book, just drop in.

Contact [stuart.inglis@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:stuart.inglis@midlothian.gov.uk) or telephone no 0131 270 5776 for more info.

## Friday Night Music Project

The FNMP is back, from 4.30-7pm every Friday at The Lasswade Centre. If you're in P7 upwards and currently play an instrument then why not come along. £2 per week payable on the night.

For more information contact [Jake.herriot@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Jake.herriot@midlothian.gov.uk) or 0131 271 3710

## Duke of Edinburgh

If you are 14 years + and live in the Bonnyrigg area and are interested in working towards your Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award please get in touch with [stuart.inglis@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:stuart.inglis@midlothian.gov.uk) or telephone no 0131 270 5776



## Awards Drop-In

If you are a young person 12+ and want to find out if you can get an award for activities you carry out in the community please come along and speak to us

**Lasswade** - Monday lunch time Library Computer Room Contact [Julia.ellison@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Julia.ellison@midlothian.gov.uk)

## Communities Team Update

### Midlothian Community Council Training Day

All current and prospective community councilors and interested members of the community are welcome to join us for our first annual training day. There will be a range of workshops for you to sign up for on the day, ranging from youth engagement to community empowerment, and plenty time to network with colleagues from neighbouring community councils.

Saturday 7th October—10 to 3pm @ The Lasswade Centre

To book <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/community-council-training-day-tickets-34110818376> or contact Catherine, contact details below.



### Home Link Family Support needs Midlothian Volunteers

We are a unique volunteering service that supports parents with young children and we are looking for new recruits in Midlothian – would you like to join us?

Everyone knows that bringing up small children can be tough at times. Most parents rely on grandparents, friends or extended family to help out occasionally. But some parents don't have anyone to support them or even anyone to chat to about the ups and downs of family life.

This is where our volunteers can step in to offer friendly help and support.

The fully trained volunteers are carefully matched with one family and they visit them in the family's home for 2 or 3 hours a week. Each family needs something different but volunteers can take the pressure off by playing and reading with children, and by talking things through with parents, encouraging them with gentle non judgemental support.

You don't need to be a parent to volunteer. You just need to be over 18, positive and reliable.

Our next volunteer training is in Dalkeith at the end of August. Have a look at our website for more details [www.homelinkfamilysupport.org](http://www.homelinkfamilysupport.org) or give us a ring for a chat about volunteering 0131 661 0890.



Contact your Communities Officer, Catherine Duns for more information, 0131 270 5769 or [catherine.duns@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:catherine.duns@midlothian.gov.uk)