

# Adult Learners' Festival

## Learning for Work

Thursday 23rd February 2012

### About

There has never been a better time to maintain the ability and motivation to learn and adapt quickly to changing economic times. *Learning for Work* day takes place on Thursday and is supported by notable organisations including ICTU, SFA, BITC, INOU and SIPTU. It focuses on people who are currently retraining and upskilling and looking to re-enter the workforce. It aims to draw attention to the importance of retaining the skills that people have already acquired through previous work experience and also to highlight the opportunities that are available for those that wish to upskill or reskill. Organisations are encouraged to hold an event that highlights what they can offer to those that are looking to learn new skills for work. By getting involved in the biggest annual celebration of *Learning for Work* you could discover new skills, build new partnerships and discover how to progress onto the next step of your career!

### Event & Activity Ideas

#### Make a Learning Plan

Why not make an individual learning plan on *Learning for Work Day*. The plan is a way for people to set personal targets and record achievements. For instructions on how to make your plan [click here](#).

#### Learning Needs Noticeboard

This initiative allows those members of staff with specific areas of expertise to help others with day to day tasks. It involves putting up a notice board and call it the 'Learning Needs Notice Board'. For more information [click here](#)

#### Swap a Book in Business

Whether your business is office-based, manual or service-providing, it provides enormous potential for promoting reading and book-swapping. Use it as a way to get people talking, build relationships, gain a higher profile for your business or as an integral part of your staff development agenda. You can either create an activity that complements your aims as an organisation or use swapping as a relaxing and refreshing activity to increase creativity and productivity. [Click here](#) for some starting points.

#### Working Out Your Payslip

This activity shows employees how to work out the different aspects of their pay slip and how to work out their net pay (after tax). Although it's quite obviously mathematical, it's something that is interesting and relevant to most employees. This activity can be completed by the employee without a leader although it is important that someone is on hand to offer support if required. Why not invite your finance team to get involved? The activity will hopefully cut down on the amount of queries they get from staff about their pay slips.

#### Inter-departmental quiz in your workplace

Why not hold an interdepartmental quiz in your workplace on *Learning for Work Day*. Get each department to come up with ten questions and then test your colleagues knowledge.

The Adult Learners' Festival 2012 is kindly sponsored by:



## Promoting Yourself

While job - hunting it is essential to be as prepared as you can. Why not hold an event that shows people how to promote themselves, prepare their CVs and improve their interview skills.

## Quick Fixes

- Hold a workshop on job seeking skills in partnership with local organisations
- 'Meet the Tutors' Set up an information stand in your local shopping centre or canteen to attract potential adult learners
- Include a crossword or information on learning opportunities with staff payslips
- Organise a taster class or demonstration for potential learners
- Launch adult learning research, statistics, booklets or exhibitions
- If you can't hold an event why not distribute the AONTAS FREE information booklet What Next? Contact us at [mail@aontas.com](mailto:mail@aontas.com) for some copies

## Useful Organisations

ICTU Union Skills Network ([www.ictu.ie](http://www.ictu.ie))

Small Firms Association ([www.sfa.ie](http://www.sfa.ie))

IBEC ([www.ibec.ie](http://www.ibec.ie))

Mandate ([www.mandate.ie](http://www.mandate.ie))

SIPTU ([www.siptu.ie](http://www.siptu.ie))

Business in the Community ([www.bitc.ie](http://www.bitc.ie))

Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed ([www.inou.ie](http://www.inou.ie))

Communications Workers Union ([www.cwu.ie](http://www.cwu.ie))

Volunteering Ireland ([www.volunteeringireland.ie](http://www.volunteeringireland.ie))

## AONTAS Can Help!

We understand that it's often difficult to find the time to hold an event or run an activity so AONTAS have put a number of resources in place to make it as easy as possible for your organisation to become involved in the Adult Learners' Festival 2012.

An Event in a Bag jampacked with everything you need to promote your event

A local contact in each area to share their knowledge and experience

Activity and Event ideas on [www.adultlearnersfestival.com](http://www.adultlearnersfestival.com)

Calendar of Events at [www.adultlearnersfestival.com](http://www.adultlearnersfestival.com)

AONTAS staff on hand for any guidance and assistance you might need

**Don't have the time to organise an event or activity from scratch? You can still be part of the Adult Learners' Festival by scheduling an existing event during the festival week.**

**Don't forget to keep AONTAS up to date on events or activities you have planned.  
Register your event to take part at [www.adultlearnersfestival.com](http://www.adultlearnersfestival.com)**

