

E-Learning Market Update (Jun13)

Vocational Learning - learners rewarded, employers awarded

This month we are celebrating vocational education. June has seen a range of awards that celebrate vocational learning including VQ Day and the Lion Awards.

Over six million vocational qualifications were awarded in the UK in 2012 and at City & Guilds we were pleased to award over 2m of these certificates to vocational learners.

VQ Day

VQ Day is a day to celebrate the achievements of the UK's vocational learners.

Vocational qualifications have never been more important to the economy and the individual; they deliver the trained, talented employees businesses are crying out for and ensure young people have the skills needed to succeed in education and work.

Minister for Skills, Matthew Hancock hosted the 6th annual VQ Day awards ceremony, which took place at the Houses of Parliament, alongside former Education Secretary Lord Baker.



At the event, City & Guilds Kineo Director Steve Rayson presented the first ever Employer of the Year award to Veolia, the world's leading environmental company.

Veolia was recognised by the VQ Day judges because of its commitment to boosting the skill level across its entire workforce.

A recent Ofsted report on Veolia's in-house training programme judged it outstanding, and in the last five years alone, Veolia's employees have achieved 8,653 NVQs and over 17,000 vocationally related qualifications.

Big congratulations also to Brighton & Hove Albion Football Club who took the highly commended award for their investment in staff training and commitment to vocational education.

The Lion Awards

The Lion Awards brought together learners, teachers and experts to honour the outstanding achievements of the most exceptional vocational achievers. The Lion Awards is the culmination of the coveted Medals for Excellence regional awards programme, run every year since 1879. This year, City & Guilds awarded 114 medals and all medallists were automatically put forward to win one of 14 Lion Awards.

The prestigious City & Guilds Lion Awards was celebrated at a red-carpet ceremony on Wednesday 5 June 2013 at the Roundhouse in London.



Tesco won the City & Guilds Employer of the year award. They were recognised for developing a training programme that enhances their business performance and helps to solve industry skills gaps.

Working with City & Guilds Kineo, their programme has grown year-on-year since its launch nine years ago. Last year, Tesco made a commitment to offer 10,000 apprenticeship places over two years.

The apprenticeship programme is available to all staff, whatever their background. As a result, employees across all age groups have had the chance to gain a well-renowned qualification.

Speaking about their success, Natasha Adams, UK Operations Personnel Director at Tesco said: *“Apprenticeships are a great way of unlocking potential and giving people the confidence to do a fantastic job for customers. I’m proud of the programmes we’ve developed, and even more proud of all our colleagues who’ve undertaken apprenticeships, who work so hard and demonstrate huge commitment to the business and to our customers.”*

The Lion Award is a testament to the dedication and commitment of Tesco to vocational learning.

It was very humbling to see the achievements of many of the young people that won Lion awards and it was a privilege to be part of the two events. They were a true showcase of the importance of lifelong vocational learning.

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