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- TRAINEESHIPS
TO BE
LAUNCHED
SEPTEMBER 2013
- DUX AWARDS
OPEN FOR
APPLICATION

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Bright Green Learning

PUTTING LEARNERS FIRST

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Traineeships to get young people ready for work

Skills Minister Matthew Hancock has set out plans for a new programme to equip young people with the skills they need to compete for Apprenticeships and other jobs.

The new Traineeships programme, which could be in place by September 2013, would provide young people aged 16 to 24 with a tailor-made package of support that will give them the confidence, skills and experience to compete in the labour market with more experienced adults. A Traineeship could be seen as a crucial stepping stone to an Apprenticeship— a job with training to industry standards— or other jobs, for those young people who currently lack the necessary skills.

The Government's vision for Traineeships includes:

- Focused work preparation training— e.g. CV writing, interview preparation, job searching, inter-personal skills.
- High-quality work experience— giving young people real-life work placement to enhance their skills and confidence.
- English and maths— for young people who have not achieved a GCSE grade C or equivalent or better.

The initiative is part of the Government's wider aim to ensure the future workforce possesses the skills that employers want in their apprentices and employees.

Skills Minister Matthew Hancock said:

'we want to support everyone in our country to reach their personal best. To do that, we are introducing Traineeships to help young people with the skills they need to get a job, and hold down a job'

Last year's CBI annual education and skills survey showed almost two-thirds - 61% - of employers were unsatisfied with the self-management skills of school leavers and 35% were unhappy with literacy skills.

There are similar schemes in place around the country, such as Work Pairings by PM Training, the social enterprise training arm of the Aspire Group. This includes maintenance contracts for housing stock and providing services from gardening to painting, decorating and environmental improvements. As they become work ready, participants move into an Apprenticeship with PM or are supported into an Apprenticeship or job with an external employer, often from PM's own supply chain.

The discussion paper supporting young people to develop the skills for Apprenticeships and other sustained jobs is available via this link

http://media.education.gov.uk/assets/files/pdf/t/updated_%20traineeships%20discussion%20paper%20-%20january%202013.pdf

Interested parties are asked to send their thoughts to traineeships.discussion@education.gsi.gov.uk by 8 February 2013.

Dux Awards Scheme 2013

Registration is open for the Dux Awards 2013.

Schools select a Year9 pupil as their 'Dux' (Latin for champion), who is rewarded with a visit to one of the Russell Group universities. All 24 Russell Group Universities are taking part in the scheme, recognising and rewarding performance and potential in maintained secondary school pupils, and raising their aspirations.

Last year 1400 pupils from 750 schools attended a special event at one of the universities. This year even more are expected to register.

Registration closes on 8th February and the events are due to be held from May to July.

Follow this link to register:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/leadership/governance/a00198900/leadership-development-and-support>



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Chairs of Governor's Leadership Development Programme

The Department has been working with the National College to develop a programme of leadership development for chairs and aspiring chairs of governors in maintained schools and academies. The programme has been designed to support all chairs of governors, whether you are aspiring, new to the role or an experienced chair. With school improvement as a key theme across the programme, each of the three units focuses on an essential element of being an effective chair:

- The role of the chair;
- Effective governance;
- School improvement.

Participants will attend a workshop and study interactive online content for each of the units and will also undertake school-based activities to encourage reflection on leadership.

Improving Governance

Governors & governance are very much in the spotlight with ofsted and the new framework so it feels right that investment and development in governor training and accreditation has become a focus too.

National leaders of governance

National leaders of governance are highly effective chairs of governors, who use their skills and experience to support chairs of governors in other schools and academies. They work to increase leadership capacity to help raise standards so that improvements can be sustained.

Do you need support from a national leader of governance?

National leaders of governance will support chairs of governors in other schools and academies to help raise standards. Further information on the types of support and how to apply can be found using this link:

Do you want to become a national leader of governance?

The national college has regular application rounds for national leaders of governance and launched the most recent application round on 3 December. The eligibility criteria can be found on the [National College Website](http://www.nationalcollege.gov.uk) using this link: <http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/leadership/governance/a00198900/leadership-development-and-support>

Governors' Guide to the Law

All school governors in maintained schools need to know their legal responsibilities and how these fit in with the responsibilities of the Headteacher, the local authority and the Secretary of State for Education.

This guide sets out the statutory requirements relating to maintained school governing body responsibilities. The explanatory text should be read alongside the law and guidance sections listed at the end of each chapter and any information on governance provided by the local authority.

The list of statutory policies that schools are required to have and their review frequency can also be downloaded from this link

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/leadership/governance/a00198900/leadership-development-and-support>

The DFE are currently reviewing the Governors' Guide to the Law and plan to replace it in the spring of 2013 with a more concise handbook for governors in both maintained schools and academies that provides essential information on their key responsibilities.