

Award winner's story

# Naseem Bashir

Award Winner  
North East

"The effect of learning gave me confidence as a woman, mother and learner."

**Naseem moved to the UK in 1996 to get married, and at the time she had a very basic understanding of English.**

Naseem's aim was to work in childcare, but she knew she'd need improved language skills to achieve this. So, after the birth of her three children, Naseem went to Newcastle's Angelou Centre – an organisation working with and supporting black and minority ethnic women – to ask for help to improve her spoken English.

She became a volunteer crèche worker at the centre and undertook a range of courses with the Workers' Educational Association (WEA) in Community Learning Champions,



Civic Volunteering, Parenting Champions and Tackling Race Inequalities. Naseem is now a Community Learning Champion who helps other adults in her community to access learning opportunities, and is seen as a role model.

She continues to volunteer in the centre's crèche and works part time as a crèche worker. Naseem said, "I am now able to support my children with their studies and share knowledge about the wider world."

If you know an individual who has taken up learning to improve their skills for personal development, they could be eligible for the Learning Life Skills Adult Learners' Week Award. Projects that offer learning opportunities for individuals to improve these skills can also be nominated.

**Nominate now**  
at [www.alw.org.uk/nominate](http://www.alw.org.uk/nominate)

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<https://twitter.com/NIACEhq>



[www.facebook.com/niaceadultlearnersweek](http://www.facebook.com/niaceadultlearnersweek)



<http://www.youtube.com/user/NIACEhq>

It **will** help to change someone's life

Nominating an inspiring learner will boost their self-confidence and turn them into a role model that others can follow back into learning.

# Adult Learners' Week

18-24 May 2013

**Learning Life Skills**



**Adult Learners' Week:**

- **Recognises achievement**
- **Encourages participation**
- **Shapes the debate about adult learning**

Paywand Shwan  
Award Winner

*learn for life*

[www.alw.org.uk](http://www.alw.org.uk)

Co-ordinated by:

**niace**  
promoting adult learning

Supported by:



**BIS**  
Department for  
Business Innovation  
and Skills

The European Social Fund (ESF) aims to improve employment opportunities in the European Union by supporting Member States' employment and skills policies. In England, in 2007-2013, the ESF is investing £2.5 billion in jobs and skills.

## What is Adult Learners' Week?

Adult Learners' Week is a national celebration of the benefits of lifelong learning and an opportunity to explore the many types of learning available to adults from all walks of life.

### Events

It is the biggest annual learning festival in the UK and last year over 100,000 people participated in over 2,000 events. Staged by FE and HE colleges, large employers, government departments, voluntary organisations and charities, these events inspired, encouraged and helped adults into learning across the UK.



Celebrate and share your learning with our

### 'Learning through a lens' photo competition

We're looking for photos that reflect the many different types of life skills learning that takes place.

Visit:

[www.alw.org.uk/photocomp](http://www.alw.org.uk/photocomp)  
for more

Education providers use Adult Learners' Week to showcase the learning opportunities they offer. Employers use it to support and develop their staff. For voluntary organisations and charities it creates the ideal opportunity to reach more people. It also provides the perfect setting in which to recognise their hard work and the achievements of the learners they support.

### Awards

Each year thousands of people are nominated for the highly coveted Adult Learners' Week awards. These recognise learning providers and individual learners. There are awards for a wide range of categories including *Learning for Work*, *Learning Through Technology*, *Learning Through Sport*, and *Young Adult Learner of the Year*. Anyone can nominate a project or an individual for an award. You can nominate online at: [www.alw.org.uk/nominate](http://www.alw.org.uk/nominate). Nominations for 2013 must be made by **5pm, Thursday 13 December, 2012**.

### New Learning Life Skills Award

Adult Learners' Week celebrates and encourages adults to take up learning. The Learning Life Skills Award recognises individuals who have taken up learning to improve their skills for personal development, and projects that offer learning opportunities for individuals to improve these skills. Examples include practical skills in English, maths and ICT that equip individuals to deal with the demands of everyday life, such as communicating, managing personal expenses, civic participation, financial learning, etc.

By nominating for the Learning Life Skills Award, you will be showcasing the active contribution that you and your organisation make towards celebrating excellence in adult learning. As a nominator, you will be able to actively participate in the regional and national publicity that Adult Learners' Week generates every year.

To find out more, visit [www.alw.org.uk/nominate](http://www.alw.org.uk/nominate)

# Join our national celebration of adult learning

By hosting your own Adult Learners' Week **event** and **nominating** inspiring learners or providers you are helping us to:

- Recognise achievement in learning
- Encourage participation in learning
- Shape the debate about adult learning and influence policy



During last year's festival:

- Over **75 awards** were presented across England
- Adult Learners' Week received over **1,300 award nominations**
- Adult Learners' Week was marked by over **2,000 events**

**Celebrate the achievements of an inspiring learner you know by nominating them for the 2013 awards**

## National Awards Ceremony

The National Awards Ceremony is a key event and last year awards were presented by Vince Cable MP, Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills. There was wide ranging media interest throughout Adult Learners' Week with national titles including The Independent, The TES, The Daily Mail and The Sun all covering the activity.

For a full list of the awards categories visit:

[www.alw.org.uk/nominate](http://www.alw.org.uk/nominate)

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