

Award winner's story

# Aysha Bentley

Apprentice of the Year 2012  
West Midlands

"Now, because I believe in myself more, it is much easier for me to get a job... my life is much more stable and I can see a path for my future"

**Aysha finally found a direction in life when she was accepted onto an apprenticeship in hospitality at the De Vere Academy of Hospitality in Coventry.**

Aysha went, "from facing jail and being homeless, to meeting new people, learning skills...and committing myself to something I love."

Having completed the BTEC apprenticeship, she gained a Level 2 NVQ in Professional



Cookery and a Level 1 Key Skills Numeracy qualification. Aysha now has two jobs: she works in a city centre pub, as well as in the kitchen of a luxury five-star fitness centre. "We are incredibly proud of Aysha" said Kevin Haygarth from the Academy, "She is a shining example of how young people can really flourish on our apprenticeship programmes."

If you know an individual who has improved their prospects in their current role or apprenticeship, or have secured a new job, business or career as a result of learning, they could be eligible for the Learning for Work Awards. Projects that provide learning at or for work, helping learners to improve their prospects can also be nominated.

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

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



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

It **will** help to  
change lives

Nominating an inspiring work based learner, apprentice or provider will demonstrate your commitment to promoting excellence in Learning for Work, helping to boost productivity and competitiveness.

# Adult Learners' Week

18-24 May 2013

## Learning for Work



Andrew Easter  
Award Winner

### Adult Learners' Week:

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

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 learning for work 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**.

### Learning for Work

The Adult Learners' Week Awards celebrate achievements and encourage adults to take up learning. There are three Learning for Work Awards:

- Learning for Work Award (Individual): celebrates adults who have secured a new job, or improved their prospects at work by undertaking learning;
- Learning for Work Award (Project): celebrates providers who have offered learning opportunities to help people gain new skills to enter employment or to progress at work; and
- Apprentice of the Year Award (Individual): celebrates adult apprentices who have successfully combined learning on and off the job to achieve positive results for themselves and their employer.

By nominating for the Learning for Work Awards, you will be showcasing the active contribution that you and your organisation make towards celebrating excellence in adult learning for work. You will be able to actively participate in the regional and national publicity that Adult Learners' Week generates every year.

# 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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