

Gateway 4 Diploma Application moves North Hertfordshire SAPG closer to achieving Full 14-19 Entitlement

The submission of the Gateway 4 application on 25 November, represents another significant move towards the delivery of the full 14-19 learner entitlement in accordance with the Hertfordshire strategy.

It is part of a **learning revolution**, which will transform the life chances of young people within North Hertfordshire. This will be characterised by:

- An entitlement to four overarching learning and progression pathways of Apprenticeships, Diplomas, Foundation Learning and General Qualifications, underpinned by Functional Skills in English, Mathematics and ICT, and Personal Learning and Thinking Skills
- Parity of esteem for the pathways, which will be supplemented by additional alternative qualifications that meet a clearly identified need not met elsewhere
- A support offer to include effective impartial Information, Advice and Guidance; positive, active and targeted support; a 14-19 Prospectus and Common Application Process and the September Guarantee
- Support from AimHigher to raise aspirations and expectations and enhance local HE progression opportunities
- Providing young people with the skills to contribute to the expansion of the local industrial and commercial base

The Diplomas are an integral part of this vision as they provide innovative employer designed and personalised applied learning opportunities, which equip young people with the employment skills to contribute effectively to the future world of work and embark on a journey of self-discovery and development through lifelong learning.

Significant progress has been made in delivering this part of the vision with 11 lines of learning, covering a mix of levels, having already been approved for 2010 delivery. Over 850 learners are currently engaged in collaborative Diploma programmes.

The full entitlement will be available by 2012. It is intended that, by 2011, the Phase 4 lines, plus Manufacturing and Product Design will be available at all levels. Then, by the following year, Retail Business will be available for delivery by the SAPG, and Land Based and the Environment will be offered jointly across the County. This means that the statutory 2013 entitlement will be fully met with an estimated 2,000 learners involved, which represents 20% of the age cohort.