

GTA England news

6th May 2020 weekly update

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Mark Maudsley

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If you have any problems registering your attendance on to an event please contact

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GoToWebinar

Upcoming Events

Introduction

Thank you for attending this weeks webinar
The link to the recording of the webinar held on 6th May 2020 can be found [here](#)

The link to register for next weeks webinar can be found [here](#) on 13th May 2020



Thank you for your ever positive feedback on the weekly webinars and content.

We started this weeks webinar with an input from David Morgan EAL UK Sales Manager. Many delegates found the sound difficult which probably resulted in the lack of many questions. Therefore, we plan to invite David to a future webinar. Its exciting to learn of the new platform and Minecraft game and we will circulate information following todays article on Channel 4. David's slides can be found in the members area of the website accessed [here](#)

or [filepath Membersarea>Membersresources>Library>Covid19>6thMay for the latest recording/slides](#)

For further information on our recently launched Skills Miner game please [click here](#)

For further information on Engage, our innovative learning platform please [click here](#)

I would re-iterate David's kind invitation for members to contact to have a personalised tour by contacting David.morgan@eal.org.uk.

We then immersed ourselves in the considerations currently being pondered in the re-opening centres and operations. We expect announcements at weekend from government about the easing of lockdown and therefore, will revisit this crucially important topic at next weeks session.

Please ALL take time to complete the survey published in this Newsletter

which is aimed at establishing current occupancy and any changes to trends in addition to the crucial question of starts for 2020-21. More later but we also seek your views on potential solutions to share with ESFA and IFATE.

Remember, we need your suggestions for topics to ensure we are responding to your needs. Also, please don't be shy on volunteering to share information and content in the webinars – the wider the input the richer the content.



◆ [Questionnaire for Members: CV19 current impact & solutions](#)

We are keen to be representing members accurately to government.

Feedback indicates members value the opportunity to share approaches and learn from each other which this survey aims to support.

Additionally, Rob Nitsch, Chief Operating Officer from the IFATE is attending the next GTA England Board meeting in May 2020 to discuss how the “new normal” may look – we’d value your thoughts on this!

The survey covers the following areas:

- Participation in Business Support measures for ITPs
- CoVid 19 and impact on Performance on existing learners and new starts.
- What relaxations to existing guidance would be appreciated?
- Looking over the horizon, what can we see as being helpful?

The survey is high level and only takes five minutes to complete. Completions would be appreciated at your earliest convenience but **by 15th May 2020**. [LINK TO SURVEY](#)

◆ [Considerations on re-opening training centres and operations](#)

Thank you to the many members taking time to complete the survey, and at short notice. We discussed the outcomes of the four key questions and I’m grateful for the inputs, thoughts and contributions from our panel consisting of:

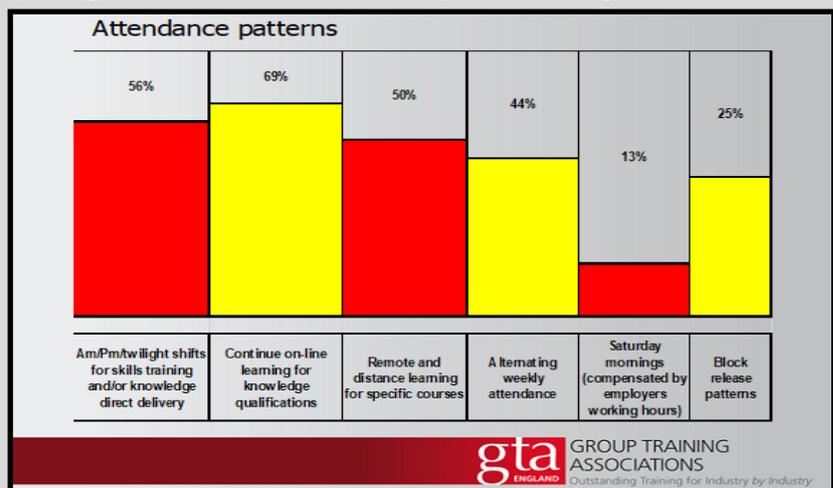
Paul Musa, NWTC

Huw Chapman, PETA

Linsey Temple, GET

Terry Weston, the Engineering College

Regarding attendance patterns,
the results we discussed looked like this:



Most members are continuing with on-line learning methodologies and also considering instituting a shift pattern: mornings; afternoon; twilight, in order to have learners back in centre. Observing smaller class sizes would mean alternating attendance each week.

[Points included in this discussion included:](#)

- Huw reminded us to remember that different sectors have different expectations and experience in using on-line methodologies.
- Additionally, there may be a “two speed” scenario with the amount learners are able to take on board and this needs to be managed and responded on coming back into centre of with the provision of more 1:1 support on-line.
- The great point about seeking the right blended learning approach was reinforced by the panel as opposed to relying totally on on-line courses and methodology.
- Examples were shared of great examples of companies supporting furloughed learners with support and encouragement. We also recognised that there are other scenarios when companies need to be engaged in order to support approaches with learners with attitudinal barriers to on-line learning and support!
- Linsey reminded us to observe the Working Time Directive too in terms of increasing hours of learners and indeed, of staff.

Considerations on re-opening training centres and operations continued

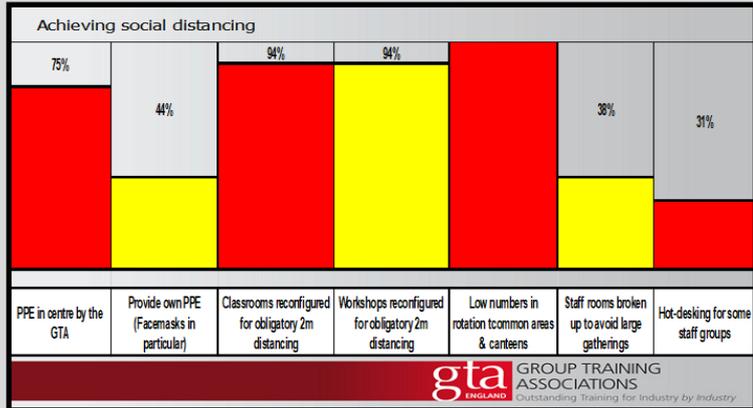
◆ Achieving social distancing

All respondents recognise the need for smaller classes and reconfigured workshop and class room design in order to meet social distancing.

The discussion included:

- Much discussion around PPE and the provision of such. Paul covered the types of masks available and respective uses. My thanks also to Dave Alma, from BEMA who has provided a note on PPE with links to guidance which is available in the [members area](#)

or [filepath Membersarea>Membersresources>Library>Covid19>6thMay for the latest recording/slides](#)



Good webinar this morning with a lot of useful input. There are a couple of things which I would like to comment on.

There was the point of PPE including masks being looked into as mentioned by Linsey – as a former Health and Safety Manager with 9 years’ experience, this has raised a few possible red flags.

If PPE is provided, then appropriate training must be given for fitment, use and disposal.

As an example: - Disposable medical face masks are intended for a single use only. After use they should be removed using appropriate techniques (i.e. do not touch the front, remove by pulling the elastic ear straps or laces from behind) and disposed of immediately in an infectious waste bin with a lid, followed by hand hygiene.

The WHO also advised that widespread use of masks “carries uncertainties and critical risks”, such as self-contamination and shortages of medical supplies.

If members are going to go down the mask route, I suggest they get professional advice and training, and make sure that their risk assessments are complete and robust, there are already claims going into the NHS from staff who have been infected.

The other subject which has not been raised, is the safeguarding issues which may have increased for apprentices and staff whilst working from home or being furloughed.

Please find some useful links below which you may want to share with members.

<http://briefing.safeguardingschools.co.uk/index.php?action=social&chash=c8ffe9a587b126f152ed3d89a146b445.160&s=b7fe47978b9c242e65a4d1005cafe56d>

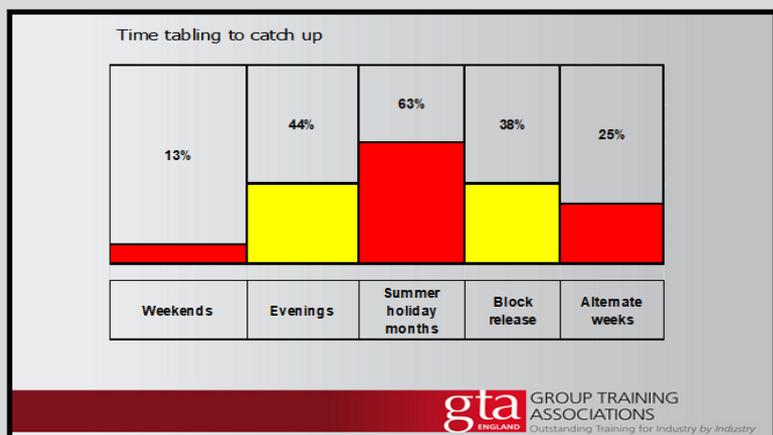
I am sure that everyone has these issues in hand.

- Terry raised the question around what criteria should be used when considering Breaks in Learning. This is especially the case when key workers including those in the NHS who are currently focussed on devoting the vast majority of time at work on tasks in the job description.
- It was clear that plans are advanced and approaching finalisation
- Paul’s slides (available in the members area) showed they type of actions being put in place requiring some staff being released from furlough in order to make the centre compliant.

◆ In terms of timetabling options to consider, we discussed the following:

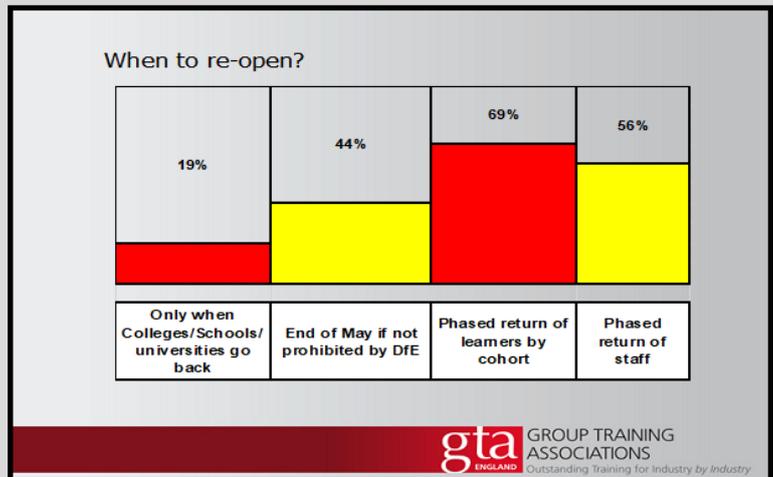
Unsurprisingly, results complemented the responses made under the considerations for attendance patterns.

- All panellists commented on having to use the summer period in order to allow Apprentices to catch up; indeed Huw explained that the training centre was always in operation over the summer reflecting the mix of provision across a number of sectors.
- Similar to the attendance pattern section, the use of weekends at the moment was not being considered. However, it was noted that this may change as lockdown continues.



◆ Finally, when are we considering re-opening?

- There seemed a consensus that GTAs ought to reflect the timing pattern applied to industry as opposed to schools and colleges. This seemed to be reinforced with almost 50% of respondents anticipating being operational in centres before the end of May and less than 20% preferring to only open alongside the same timing as schools and colleges.



- Robin from SETA made a supporting observation following the publication of the Irish policy directive that indicates a phased return. For non-essential general workers including manufacturing this would be at week 4 (by 20th July 2020). This is in advance of schools and colleges which is thought to be 10th August 2020.
- However, the panel also recognised the potential reputational aspects which would need to be managed, particularly with parents.
- Linsey is happy to report back following legal advice regarding how we support staff who feel less comfortable in returning to work due to their potential underlying health issues and recognising the notion of “social shielding” to protect other family members.

I'm thankful also for a contribution from **Paul, RAF Cosford**, who reminds of the requirements in RIDDOR contained in HSE guidance.

You must only make a report under RIDDOR (The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013) when:

- An unintended incident at work has led to someone's possible or actual exposure to coronavirus. This must be reported as a dangerous occurrence.**
- A worker (Whole Force) has been diagnosed as having COVID 19 and there is reasonable evidence that it was caused by exposure at work. This must be reported as a case of disease.**
- A worker dies as a result of occupational exposure to coronavirus**

We fill out the appropriate documentation and forward to our H&S Office who process from there.

Thank you, It was a good Webinar and you are where we were a few weeks ago with much the same topics. You seem to have highlighted all the major areas that need to be considered.

As already mentioned, we will retune to this topic next week and review in the light of any government announcements this weekend.

- We finished with a reminder of the various training events which can be seen in the events calendar below.
- A particular mention was made to the workshops on on-lining teaching and learning resources taking place today, tomorrow and next week.
- Also the Profitable Delivery Models session on Mechatronics on 14th May 2020 when we will have the benefit of several year's experience including EPA from Shane Parkes NWTC and Dave Tolen, Training 2000. Also Steve Palmer from MGTS which includes reflections on on-lining actions taken in recent weeks.

**PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT THE
EVENTS CALENDAR ON THE
NEXT PAGE FOR THE FULL LIST**



GTA England Events & Webinars



**Upcoming
Events**

Date /Time	Mode	Venue	Title	
07/05/20 12.30pm	Webinar Ideas for Learning	Online	How to deliver through virtual classrooms – pedagogy and practice Register in advance for this meeting	<u>LINK</u>
12/05/20 12.30pm	Webinar Ideas for Learning	Online	Accessibility checking and awareness	<u>LINK</u>
13/05/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online	Coronavirus Latest information	<u>LINK</u>
May 2020 TBC	Webinar	Online	C&G Independent End Point Assessor (IEPA) training for the Engineering Operative standard, again, *exclusively for GTA England members staff	<u>LINK</u>
14/05/20 10.00-11.30	Webinar	Online	Profitable delivery models Mechatronics. See how NWTcs 3 years of experience have identified opportunities for high quality cost effective delivery . Learn how skills qualifications have been aligned into excellent EPA preparation. Session will also include Alliance Learning .	<u>LINK</u>
21/05/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online	Using data on inspection	<u>LINK</u>
11/06/20 10.00 -11.30am	Webinar	Online	Observation of TLA: quality of education; leadership and management; staff development	<u>LINK</u>
23/06/20 10.00 -11.30am	Webinar	Online	Sequencing the curriculum	<u>LINK</u>
07/07/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online H&WGTA	Starting points in Knowledge, Skills & Behaviours (KSB) in Management Standards	<u>LINK</u>
09/07/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online	Safeguarding	<u>LINK</u>
23/07/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online	Initial assessment and progress tracking	<u>LINK</u>
11/11/20 10am-6pm	Conference	House of Commons	GTA England Annual Conference (including afternoon Tea)	<u>LINK</u>

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