

GTA England news

27th May 2020 weekly update

What's in this Issue?

Page 1

Introduction

Links

Page 2 & 3

Mark Maudsley

Weekly Update

Page 5

Events/Webinars

Contacts

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

Lesley.Powles@gtaengland.co.uk

 GoTo Webinar


Upcoming Events



My thanks go to all colleagues inputting in today's webinar – it shows that sharing, informing and participating does indeed reduce the burden and isolation as we all face the same issues.

The same is true of those colleagues asking questions – there really isn't such a thing as a daft question!

The link to today's recording can be found [here](#)

The link to next week's Webinar can be found [here](#)

Next week we will continue with the standing agenda item around reopening centres.

Always remember if there is a topic or issue you'd like covering, please get in touch

Ofqual and AO guidance on adaptations and calculated grades; perspectives from AOs

Thanks go to the following for their inputs:

- ◆ Bryony Leonard – Pearson
- ◆ Simon Yorke, Calum Dickson – City & Guilds



It was interesting to note the discussion around implementation including:

- ◆ Deadlines differ for centres to relay recommendations to AOs: it is 5th June for Pearson and 26th June for City & Guilds and also that these arrangements apply to first years and not just completers – should you wish to forward recommended results.
- ◆ That NVQ assessment criteria is likely to be temporarily amended for summer 2020 for assessment evidence to a minimum of one rather than three.
- ◆ David George, JLR reminded us of the potential relaxation currently being considered by IFATE/ESFA for the Engineering Technician standard also.
- ◆ Documents are now included in the members area of the website following today's inputs:
 - City and Guilds Assessment mitigation guidance for NVQs and VRQs – Manufacturing
 - City and Guilds Assessment mitigation guidance for NVQs and VRQs – Engineering

Advance notice as still in draft but expected to be published next week.

Keep up to date by accessing the following link:

<https://www.cityandguilds.com/covid-19/mitigation-approaches-for-vrqs-nvqs>

Pearson guidance on HNC. Although no specific publications are available, accessing the following link for the HNC FAQs provides guidance

<https://www.pearson.com/uk/educators/fe-college-educators/supporting-the-fe-sector-during-coronavirus-covid-19/assessmentarrangements.html>

Revisiting the reopening of centres – we had a great presentation from Ruth Plane at MGTS detailing the approach to reopening their centres in Coventry, Redditch and Reaseheath (copy in the [members area](#) of the website) or [Filepath - Membersarea>Membersresources>Library>Covid19>27thMay2020](#)

It was particularly interesting to note the points around communication which includes the use of 8' x 4' banners around the centre to reinforce the messages around social distancing. Also we all agreed that thorough and consistent briefings are essential and we look forward to receiving the presentation pack from Ruth which includes video to inform of the process and guidance adopted and the rationale.

On the points of renewed guidance we had contributions from colleagues as follows:

The date for reopening centres in the light of Boris announcement that colleges should not reopen until 15th June. Contributions included:

- MGTS have decided to wait a week from their original intention to reopen until 15th June.
- We had inputs from others stating their intention to stick to original plans as communications have been put in place with learners and employers; and that appropriate social distancing measures are in place via risk assessment.

Regarding the age groups of Apprentices on whom to focus in the reopening of centres, many mentioned a consistent approach:

- That the cohort sizes tend to be in the region of 80% 16-18 years old Apprentices with 20% being 19+.
- Effective social distancing and operational polices can be achieved with the inclusion of the above.
- Others mentioned a desire to avoid disadvantaging 19+ apprentices with their exclusion.

Of course, as already indicated, centres need to be fully Covid19 secure and appropriate with having an appropriate volume of learners on site whose safety can be adequately managed and assured.

Furlough update

We also noted that revised guidance is due any day on the arrangements on the Job Retention Scheme. Its application covers a third of all private sector workers and is expected to cost just over £80bn.

The new arrangements will run from 1st August until the end of October and we considered the potential options open to government as described in the slide:

New flexibility will be introduced from August to get employees back to work and boost economy

- From 1st August new arrangements
- Announced by end of May 2020
- Part-time return hours possible
- Co-investment model with employer payments will substitute the contribution the government is currently making, ensuring that staff continue to receive 80% of their salary, up to £2,500 a month

Some commentators suggest

? Govt contribution 60% ? Employer contribution 20%?

? Revise max amount to <£2.0k ? But all conjecture

GTA England News continued

We will include the section on Audit at next weeks webinar. The gist of this following discussion with members focuses on a few of questions

- **Are you confident you have sufficient evidence in place?**
- **What activities are you using to define “maintaining contact” and “learning”? A survey to capture practice?**
- **Would it be valuable to get an opinion or input on the above?**

Snippets for this week included:

- Main Apprenticeship and AEB Contract terms for professional liability have now been amended from £10m to £5m. My thanks go to colleagues at HETA for identifying this change.
- A reminder that the webinar on Profitable Delivery models – Machining is taking place on 4th June 2020 . At the moment the Engineering College and HETA have agreed to share their models and I'm awaiting confirmation from others.
- Survey on impact of Covid19 on performance. My thanks once again to all who completed this. The outcomes are being used to great effect in the following forums.
 - ◇ I ’m attending a meeting this week with the Department / ESFA Provider Review Panel to discuss measures to support Apprentices.
 - ◇ Continuing IFATE/ESFA discussions especially around design criteria for potential incentive payments and “pre-recruitment training” programmes to progress into the Apprenticeship programme.
 - ◇ City & Guilds Industry Skills Board meeting.
 - ◇ To also be forwarded to Minister, Shadow Secretary of State, Chair Education Select Committee.

I plan to re-issue the survey in order to keep track with your experiences. On this front, I ’m sure many of you are surveying employers in order to keep abreast of demand. Alliance Learning have taken this on-line using a digital platform; succinct and straight forward to aid completion and produce vital data informative, a copy is in the members area.

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

**SHOULD YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS
ACCESSING THE MEMBERS AREA OR
REGISTERING ON TO ANY EVENT PLEASE
CONTACT:**

Lesley.Powles@gtaengland.co.uk



GTA England Events & Webinars



**Upcoming
Events**

Date /Time	Mode	Venue	Title	
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	LINK
03/06/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online	Coronavirus Latest information	LINK
04/06/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online	Profitable delivery models in the Machining standard in our "making standards work"	LINK
11/06/20 10.00 -11.30am	Webinar	Online	Observation of TLA: quality of education; leadership and management; staff development	LINK
23/06/20 10.00 -11.30am	Webinar	Online	Sequencing the curriculum	LINK
07/07/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online H&WGTA	Starting points in Knowledge, Skills & Behaviours (KSB) in Management Standards	LINK
09/07/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online	Safeguarding	LINK
23/07/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online	Initial assessment and progress tracking	LINK
11/11/20 10am-6pm	Conference	House of Commons	GTA England Annual Conference (including afternoon Tea)	LINK

Contact details:

Mark Maudsley GTA England CEO mark.maudsley@gtaengland.co.uk Tel: 07837 832996	Rebecca Rhodes Network Development Manager rebecca.rhodes@gtaengland.co.uk Tel: 07720 888149
Lee Weatherly Quality & Network Development Associate lee.weatherley@gtaengland.co.uk Tel: 07801 275477	Chris Jones Quality Lead Co-ordinator chris.jones@get-trained.org Tel: 07766 477016
Stephanie Whalley Quality & Network Development Associate stephanie.whalley@gtaengland.co.uk Tel: 07703 906758	Trevor Alley Quality Co-ordinator trevor.alley@gtaengland.co.uk Tel: 07719 637992
Lesley Powles Digital & Communications Officer lesley.powles@gtaengland.co.uk Tel: 07772 276608	