

# GTA England news

13th 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](mailto:Lesley.Powles@gtaengland.co.uk)



Hello everyone,  
Sorry I couldn't make this weeks webinar but I think we've found a dream team replacement in Linsey and Lesley!!  
[LINK](#) to this weeks recording or filepath



[Membersarea](#)>[Membersresources](#)>[Library](#)>[Covid19](#)>[May13th2020](#)  
and [LINK](#) to register for next weeks webinar.

Today we focused on the:

- updated information on the furlough scheme which gives us a certain degree of certainty to make plans
- preparing risk assessments on re-opening centres and other important considerations
- an update on the Ofqual review of qualifications

We have a great opportunity to influence the debate and outcome of government thinking around responding to the challenges that the covid19 virus is having on continuing learning and achieving starts. Part of that opportunity is the attendance of IFATE and Department colleagues at the next GTA England Board meeting.

Therefore, here is a plea from me to compete the survey on the impact of covid19 on operations and potential solutions from your perspective. This could be a very wise investment of no more than 5 minutes of your time [LINK TO SURVEY](#)

## Furlough

We discussed the following:

- Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme will continue until end of October
- furloughed workers across UK will continue to receive 80% of their current salary, up to £2,500
- new flexibility will be introduced from August to get employees back to work and boost economy



Discussion regarding the new arrangements included consideration of:

- From 1<sup>st</sup> 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% ?

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

### ◆ Preparing for risk assessments to re-open centre

We were joined by a health and safety professional, Phil Watson from Training 2000 whose slides are in the members area of the website.

#### **We were reminded of:**

- This is not just about measures and controls for achieving social distancing but incorporates a wider range of issues to address following the closure of centres for 8 weeks+ around maintenance and testing of existing tools and processes including
  - \* alarms;
  - \* air conditioning
  - \* draining and refill of oils and lubricants in machinery
  - \* turning on the taps and flushing the water system remembering the risk of legionnaires disease
- achieving a phased return of operations and staff by starting small and building up in order to achieve a viable centre by 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020
- considering plans that include if a job can be done from home – continue!
- Setting the right positive examples around behaviour by staff to encourage Apprentices
- The current conundrum around the use of facemasks – I recommend listening to the recording on this. Additionally, Paul Musa, NWTC has provided a useful document from government providing strong indications for covid 19 secure – see the [members area](#) for this

**Finally, the benefits of a sound, clear and concise communication strategy for staff, learners and other stakeholders including parents cannot be under estimated in informing that well considered measures and processes have been established to manage risks.**

\*\*\*\*\*

We have a generic yet useful risk assessment guidance to share along with examples gratefully received from colleagues at HETA – all contained in the members area of the website [LINK](#) or filepath

**Membersarea>Membersresources>Library>Covid19>13thMay2020**

.Further examples have been pledged which will feature on the website. A particular plea also for homeworking risk assessments would be useful for the new normal way of doing things

- ◆ Scott from City and Guilds brought us up to date on the likely availability of outcomes of the Ofqual review of qualifications in adaptations and calculating grades

- ◆ We finished with the below slide on Snippets containing measures to help in the response to covid 19 which are being discussed with both IFATE and the Department. Remember your response to the survey mentioned in the introduction will influence discussions at our next board meeting as Rob Nitsch from IFATE and a colleague from the Department will be in attendance.
- ◆ A potentially significant development in flexibility to which we have made contribution is the temporary flexibility for summer 2020 of not having to have completed the competence qualification for both the Engineering Technician and Engineering Operative standards. Although certain criteria will be put in place (yet to be agreed) an Apprentice may be able to go forward from Gateway to undertake EPA due to interruptions to the on programme training phase limiting access to the workplace or furlough.

**Other points can be seen in the below slide**

## Snippets

- Mechatronics Profitable Delivery models – 14<sup>th</sup> May 2020: NWTC; MGTS; T2000
- Completion of Survey: impact of CV19 recruitment etc
- IFATE/ESFA **discussions**:
  - **exploring** flexibilities in Engineering Technician and Operative standards of not requiring Competence qualifications sign off for Gateway – other criteria will be in place (to be agreed)

Further flexibilities discussed include

- Hardship Fund (laptops; connectivity; PPE achieving social distancing);
- Recruitment incentives;
- “traineeship” type provision
- 10% additional on-programme reflecting tough conditions maintaining contact and delivery



GROUP TRAINING ASSOCIATIONS  
Outstanding Training for Industry by Industry

**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	
20/05/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online	Coronavirus Latest information	<a href="#">LINK</a>
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	<a href="#">LINK</a>
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 another members (tba) delivery .	<a href="#">LINK</a>
21/05/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online	Using data on inspection	<a href="#">LINK</a>
11/06/20 10.00 -11.30am	Webinar	Online	Observation of TLA: quality of education; leadership and management; staff development	<a href="#">LINK</a>
23/06/20 10.00 -11.30am	Webinar	Online	Sequencing the curriculum	<a href="#">LINK</a>
07/07/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online H&WGTA	Starting points in Knowledge, Skills & Behaviours (KSB) in Management Standards	<a href="#">LINK</a>
09/07/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online	Safeguarding	<a href="#">LINK</a>
23/07/20 10.00-11.30am	Webinar	Online	Initial assessment and progress tracking	<a href="#">LINK</a>
11/11/20 10am-6pm	Conference	House of Commons	GTA England Annual Conference (including afternoon Tea)	<a href="#">LINK</a>

# Contact details:

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