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Learners with Dyslexia on the path to career success

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HUNDREDS of young people across Merseyside who have dyslexia are being given new opportunities to follow their dream careers.

The Learning and Skills Council (LSC) has provided funding for staff at Training Plus Merseyside (TPM) to study for BTEC National Diplomas in Recognition of Dyslexia.

The Liverpool-based centre provides adult learners with courses in childcare, hairdressing and business administration.

Brian Quinn, Director of TPM, said: "Many people who come to us for training have not always received the correct support for their difficulties. The training funded by the LSC has given us the tools to efficiently identify any signs of dyslexia and provide learners with the help they need.

"We are now considered an example of best practise in providing training opportunities for young adults with dyslexia. From this we are helping employers to understand the needs of staff members with dyslexia, so that they can help their staff get the most from their careers."

TPM works with over 160 Merseyside employers to provide its learners with work placements and on-the-job training. Over 98 per cent of trainees at TPM are employed straight away, and TPM provides continuous training support to both trainees and their managers, to sustain their employment.

The dyslexia awareness training was provided by Waterloo-based support network, Adult Dyslexia Access (ADA).

Steve O'Brien, Chief Executive of ADA said: "Correctly identifying and assessing dyslexia is vital for learners so they can receive the right kind of support from employers. As well as the training we offer, we also supply schools, businesses and training providers with software that can identify any signs of dyslexia in just a few minutes."

Helen France, Director of Area for LSC Greater Merseyside, said: "This is a great example of how knowledge and skills gained through training can be passed on to others. Dozens of people can benefit from the training of just one person, so I would encourage all Merseyside businesses to invest in the skills of their workforce."

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