

# Success story



Woodlands Community College Southampton

## Adapting to the changing education landscape

Woodlands Community College is using the vision2learn Business and Administration and Equality and Diversity vocational qualifications as well as the Learning to Learn resources.

The school will also use the new vision2learn GCSE resources from next year, with plans to use GCSE Religious Studies B and GCSE Leisure and Tourism specifically. The vision2learn for schools licence also includes GCSE Statistics, IGCSE First Language English and GCSE Child Development.

### Changing exam demands

vision2learn for schools is perfectly placed to help schools adapt to the changing education landscape, from alterations to recognised qualifications to shifts in assessment methods.

Ben Bond, Assistant Headteacher at Woodlands Community College, confirmed that he is seeing the benefits of this at his school through vision2learn Learning to Learn tools. These resources are designed to help students explore their capacity to learn and take control of their own learning.

He says:

"We will use the Learning to Learn resources across the school. For younger pupils, for example, these tools are great for building essential sustainable skills to help the students manage their own learning and be motivated to progress at their own pace.

"The Learning to Learn tools also really help with revision. Most children now will do exams at the end of a course, rather than in a modular fashion and that's where these tools really help because pupils are not used to this way of taking exams – they haven't done that for many years. The Learning to Learn resources are a great buy-in for schools."

Despite the changes to vocational qualifications, with many not counting in league tables from next year, vocational courses will still have significant value for many schools.

Ben Bond, explains:

"We will certainly continue to use the vision2learn vocational courses at Woodlands Community College. Vocational qualifications like these are still extremely worthwhile. They are so motivation-building for the children and leave them with a credible qualification at a time when they may not achieve anything otherwise."

He adds:

"Anything where pupils can get a qualification which can help them go on into training and employment is to be valued. There's what counts in league tables and what helps the students, and they're not always the same things. Schools live and die by results of course, but it's what helps pupils that is the most important thing."

### Boosting motivation and attainment

vision2learn resources have been carefully designed to be engaging, interactive and motivational. Students at Woodlands have reacted very well to the format and approach of the tools and the results are promising.

**Equality & Diversity**  
New ways to look at the world

Session 01: Creating a diverse environment

Promoting equality and diversity

There are lots of things that employers and educational organizations can do to promote equality and diversity. Some of these key actions are listed below and you can click on each link to learn more about promoting equality and diversity.

**Business and Administration**

Unit one: Principles of personal responsibilities and working in a business environment // Session 1: Rights and responsibilities at work

**Introduction**  
Welcome to Unit one!

This Unit is all about key responsibilities at work. Check out the panel on the right for a brief description of what you will learn during this Unit.

In this first Session, you will learn about five key areas of employment rights and responsibilities.

**These are:**

- Employment contracts
- Legislation
- Sources of information
- The role of representative bodies supporting employees
- Equality and diversity.

When you're ready to get started, click to move on to [Part 2](#) and learn all about employment contracts.

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**Equality & Diversity**  
New ways to look at the world

Session 01: Living in a diverse world

The value of diversity

If there is noticeable diversity in a small family, it should not come as a surprise that in any community, town or society the potential for many diverse characteristics is massive.

**Business and Administration**

Unit two: Principles of providing administrative services // Session 3: Making arrangements for meetings

**Information in meetings**  
Keep people in the loop

**Providing support**

**In a nutshell:**  
If a meeting has been well planned, any further requirements will be 'unexpected'. In these circumstances, a calm and efficient approach is needed.

Some meetings will require information and support. The type of information and support you may be asked to provide will depend on the context of that meeting. Often, it will be to reinforce or confirm information that has been issued with the original agenda and documents.

In many meetings, it helps to have spare copies (or quick access to additional copies) in case some people lose or forget their paperwork. There may be other activities, such as a presentation or a demonstration, making sure everyone is ready to start at the right time. The aim is to have a friendly and efficient approach.

One of the most common support activities will be to make an accurate record of the meeting. We'll cover this in greater detail later on.

Now click for some examples of other information and support activities.

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Ben Bond explains:

"We haven't got a VLE so vision2learn is a way we can use an electronic platform. It's particularly good for the pupils who are not in the building all the time. We've got students that are marginalised by attendance issues and vision2learn allows them to work outside of school and keep up."

"The reaction from students has been very positive. They can work independently, but within a structure – they can get on with their projects or tasks and get feedback, without having to be face-to-face with a teacher all the time."

"The students love the style and format of the courses and the bite-sized nature of the content. Crucially, vision2learn is definitely boosting grades for students. We've got kids getting grade equivalents they would have no chance of getting elsewhere."

## A low-prep, high-impact resource

vision2learn offers schools a lot of flexibility and can save teachers precious time.

Ben Bond says:

"Our teachers love vision2learn. Non-specialists can just pick it up and work with it. The navigation is very intuitive, so it's not unlike other formats they might have used. It's fully resourced, which I think is an advantage because I don't have to ask staff to go and do loads of planning – they can spend an hour navigating around the site and then they can just run with that unit."

## Woodlands Community College

This mixed school of 706 11–16 year old pupils is based in Harefield, Southampton.

Between 2009 and 2012 Woodlands has seen a 9% rise in pupils achieving 5+ A\*-C GCSE (or equivalent) including English and Maths.

This is the first year that teachers at Woodlands have used vision2learn for schools, and so far over 50 pupils have been enrolled on our online courses.

## Contact us

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