

Press Release

Communications PO Box 11, Chelmsford CM1 1LX

6 December 2011

ADULTS GETTING TECHNICAL WITH LANGUAGE LEARNING

An exciting new e-learning resource has been developed by the Foreign Languages sector of Essex County Council's Adult Community Learning team to encourage greater use of distance language learning via the use of technology.

The unique training pack for tutors and training providers is made up of 11 easy to use tutorials and is available in a variety of formats which all complement traditional face-to-face teaching. Using this innovative e-learning tool tutors can learn to create digital, online teaching and learning resources including audio, video and communication software to aid adults wishing to take up distance language learning.

Essex County Councillor Jeremy Lucas, Cabinet Member for Environment and Culture, said: "I think it is fantastic that the Adult Community Learning Team is using technology to increase the flexibility and accessibility of learning opportunities available to adults. This new tool is great news for people who have difficulty attending face-to-face tutorials, as it will allow people to learn languages without needing to leave their home. I look forward to e-learning being rolled out to other subjects in the future."

The e-learning project has been funded by the Learning and Skills Improvement Service following a successful bid for cash from its Regional Response Fund.

Press Release

Communications PO Box 11. Chelmsford CM1 1LX

As well as providing a welcome alternative and more flexible method of delivery for learners who struggle to attend taught sessions due to family or work commitments, geographical distance or time constraints, the initiative will help keep costs down for both the organisation and learners through reduced face-to-face contact, efficient use of resources, and a greater promotion of independent learning.

Essex's Adult Community Learning team has used the toolkit to produce a pilot 5-hour blended learning course in Intermediate/Advanced French which is being offered to adult learners studying at that level whose classes did not run due to low enrolment. More blended learning short language courses are being planned for introduction in February 2012.

The toolkit can be adapted for tutors and trainers in any subject area. Tutors from Skills for Life (Numeracy), Science and Construction are currently using it to create digital resources for their own areas. Any public-funded training providers can request a copy of the toolkit in printed or digital format. Guidelines on its use are provided in the pack.

Anyone interested in trialling the pilot French course can contact Nola Marshall, Languages Curriculum Manager for Adult Community Learning, on 01279 436230. Visit www.essex.gov.uk/adultlearning for further information.

-ENDS-

Media Contact: Lucy Dickinson Press Desk Officer 01245 434370

EssexWorks.

For a better quality of life

Press Release

Communications PO Box 11, Chelmsford CM1 1LX

Follow Essex County Council on:

[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Flickr](#) [YouTube](#) [EssexViews](#)



Essex County Council