



WESTON
COLLEGE

18.6.21

MY VIRTUAL COLLEGE

CREATIVE ARTS SUMMER SHOW

2021

23RD-26TH JUNE

Weston College, Loxton Road, BS23 4QU

Celebrate the arts with our 'Westonbury' music/theatre festival and art exhibition to witness the creative talents of local young people bloom.

With a difficult year for the arts behind us, this year's Summer Show at Loxton Campus will be a breath of fresh air and a phenomenal trip out for the family with live music, performances, artwork, locally sourced food, drink and more - all in celebration of the arts and young people in Weston-super-Mare.

Register your attendance here:

<https://weston.ac.uk/summershow>

WESSEX WATER FUNCTIONAL SKILLS

SHEENA DERMANIS



How the English Functional Skills course has improved email writing in the workplace!

Two of our assessors have been working with Wessex Water employees this year and have really enjoyed the experience.

Jed Randal has been working with Wessex Water apprentices on their Functional Skills English and maths. He said:

"All the learners have shown real commitment and enthusiasm towards their studies and have gained some amazing results.

"The course ran daily for two hours, via Teams, over a period of four weeks. The exams were taken in the last week at the College campus. We used OneNote to share content and give feedback, which proved to be an invaluable package during the pandemic. Lots of the learners were new to this and they have taken to the delivery method exceptionally well.

"The learners work in locations covering Devon, Taunton and North Somerset. Their commitment to the fast track courses has been incredible. All of the learners have engaged really well; juggling a hectic and busy working day at the same time.

"The participation in the sessions was great - I must say that they were a pleasure to teach. I want to thank them for making the most out of the lessons and gaining their Level 2 in Functional Skills maths and English. Well done!"

Apprentice Feedback:

"Thanks for all your support, you helped me gain an understanding of maths, something which has eluded me for almost 50 years!

"It was much easier to do on the screen, than I expected, very clear and easy to navigate.

"I have learnt in just three weeks, more than I did in 5 years at school. Jed is a credit to the college."

Vicky Druce ran a weekly course for English with Wessex Water apprentices and she said the following:

"I want to give some well-deserved praise to my Wessex Water apprentices who were studying their English functional skills with me.

"I had six students online as they were based in various locations including Yeovil, Bath and Frome. They were proactive and enthusiastic about their studies, and as well as working full-time and having families at home, they worked independently beyond the work set. There were never any complaints and their work ethic was tremendous.

"After a relatively short time I felt they were ready for their exams - Every single student achieved their Level 2 functional skills in English!

"This is incredible, especially as they were working remotely often onsite with construction going on whilst they sat in their cars or in staff rooms working towards the qualification.

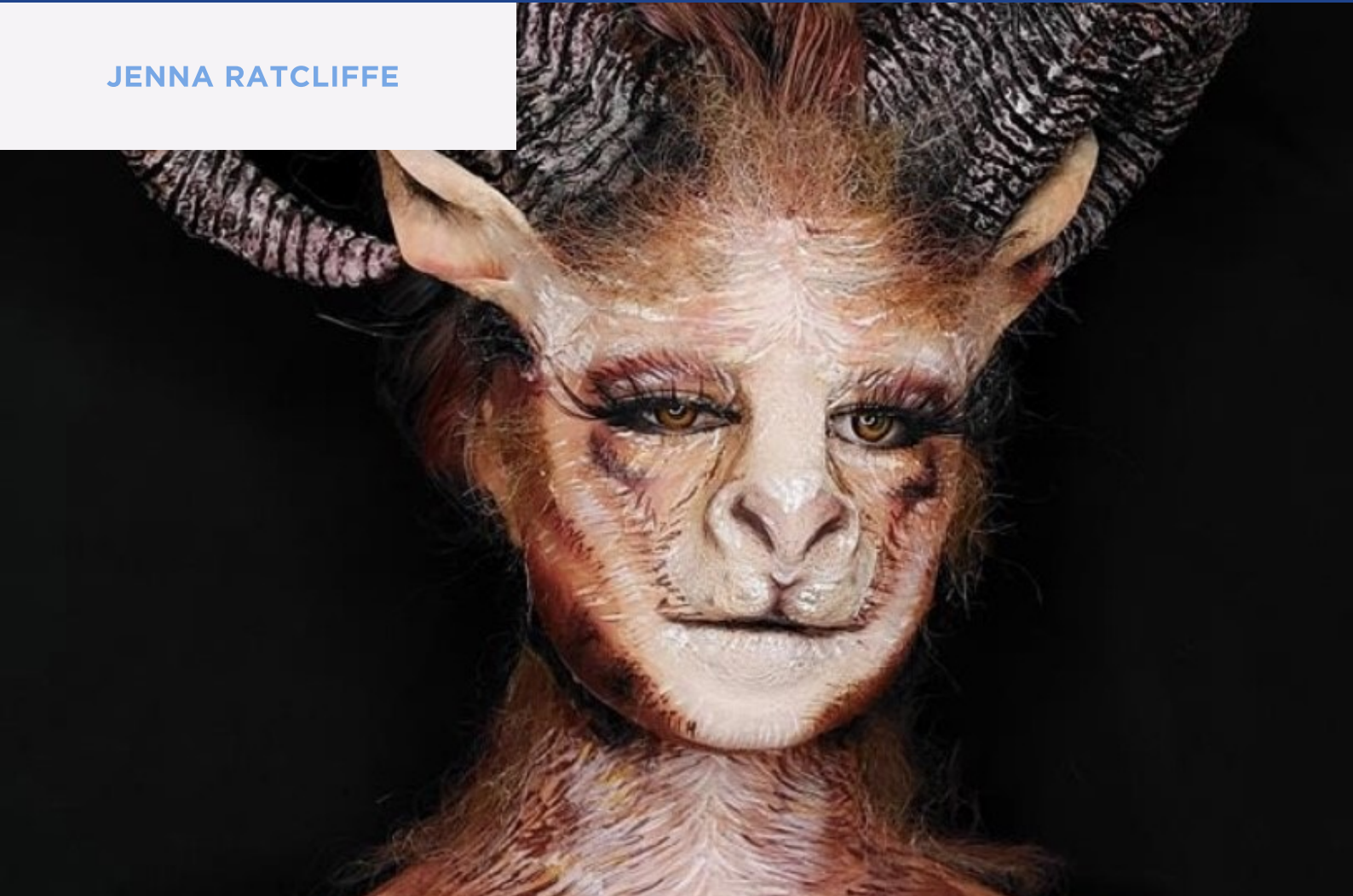
"Thank you Wessex Water for being such amazing employer and also thank you to my wonderful students, who I miss teaching! I am so proud of their achievements!"

Apprentice Feedback:

"Vicky was absolutely fantastic. She really did make every session enjoyable. The content was always clearly presented and easy to understand. She made us feel very comfortable through every step."

LEARNER SUCCESS AT AHT NATIONAL COMPETITION

JENNA RATCLIFFE



I would like to share this fantastic piece of work created by 16 year-old Poppy from our Level 3 Theatrical, Special Effects, Hair and Media Make-up, Diploma group.

Poppy has just won 1st place at AHT national competition, we are so proud of her achievement.

Please see her image above. It's all body art, attachments and prosthetics designed and created by Poppy herself.

HOSPITALITY AND CATERING EVENT

SANDRA BULL



Farm to Fork event at Puxton Park.

Year 10 & 11 students joined us to learn more about the food journey and careers within the hospitality and catering sector.

Thanks for those who attended, Bravas Restaurants for their employer advice and Puxton Park for the farm and butchery demos.

If you know someone who is unsure what to do in September, there is another chance to join us for a chat:

Thursday 25 June - Sovereign Shopping Centre, Weston
Wednesday 30 June - Open Evening, Knightstone Campus

HAIR AND BEAUTY REGIONAL HEATS FOR WORLDSKILLS

SANDRA BULL



Live heats for our hair students who were observed live by external judges.

Learners had 3 hours to complete a commercial cut, colour and finish based on a moodboard shown live by the WorldSkills judges.

They all did a fantastic job, the results will be released in 5 weeks.

The top 8 scoring competitors will progress to the national finals!

You can find out more about [WorldSkills here](#).



PERFORMING ARTS EXCEL

JOE MILLER

We have been incredibly busy in Performing Arts and it is so wonderful for our learners to be able to perform properly once again.

I can't tell you the level of engagement and excitement for our fabulous productions.

I have created two trailers (click on the images to the right):

- FE musical Oliver
- FE play Lord of the Flies

Both to be performed twice at the summer festival, of which I hope you will enjoy.

I hope you are entertained by the trailers and hope they encourage other staff members to get their free tickets at weston.ac.uk/summershow

I have also been busy with the HE learners in Dance and Musical Theatre, producing, choreographing and creating our original show called Show-in the Decades, celebrating 100 years of musical theatre and dance, of which will also be performed at the festival.



NEW INITIATIVE APPRENTICESHIP HUB

MIKE HEADINGTON

New online courses for LiveWest

LiveWest is a housing association with homes across the South West, who believe in a home for everyone.

We have built a successful working partnership with them over the last twelve months providing new apprentices and Business Admin and Team Leading qualifications for their existing staff.

During a meeting, LiveWest mentioned they would like to help staff to upskill their digital skills.

Following discussions with Gary (Director of Adult Learning) and Mark (Dean of Faculty for IT) I am pleased to announce that I have secured the delivery of three online digital skills courses for 41 members of staff throughout North Somerset, Devon and Cornwall that will commence on 2 August 2021.

This is a great example of how trusted relationships and collaborative working can benefit all involved.

We are hopeful this will be an ongoing project for all new staff and existing staff in all areas of their business.

I look forward to developing and growing our future relationship with LiveWest.

ENGLISH AND MATHS SKILLS ARE ESSENTIAL TO EVERYDAY LIFE WE CAN HELP YOU GET QUALIFIED!

OLENA VASYUTINA

Ofsted now recommends that anyone supporting learners at Level 2 (GCSE and FS) should have a qualification at least one level above.

Do you need to improve your English and/or maths skills to help you to support your learners?

Do you need to obtain a qualification in English and/or maths as part of your condition of employment?

If so, EMT are pleased to offer eligible Weston College staff an opportunity to study towards a Level 2 qualification in English and/or maths functional skills in July.

What? Intensive Functional Skills Maths/English
When? 5-9 July, 9-4pm.
Where? Knightstone Campus, Weston College
Interested? Contact emtadmin@weston.ac.uk

BAM TEAM-BUILDING SESSION

GEORGE FAKE



The Traineeship and NEET teams welcomed Jack, Marcus, Georgia and Yvonne to the ECO House at the South West Skills Campus.

Starting with a workshop on Managing Stress: A Team Perspective, we worked together to think about how we define stress and how stress can impact us in the workplace.

We reflected on what makes an effective team and put these theories to the test with a number of team building exercises in the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA).

The morning concluded with an eventful Yoga session via Les Mills On Demand!

The day was used for us to assess our strengths and weaknesses and how we can come together even more as a team!

A fantastic Body and Mind (BAM) session for staff, we were fully engaged and took a lot from the session to think about.

We plan to start a regular team yoga session moving forwards, one lunch time a week, to continue to put into practice the lessons we have learnt today.

Thank you Jack and team!



WE HAVE JOINED WE WORK FOR EVERYONE

SAM MAYHEW

WE WORK for Everyone



Weston College and North Somerset Council are delighted to join the WE WORK for Everyone project - an exciting opportunity to help support people with learning difficulties and disabilities (SEND) who need extra support to move into employment.

The aim of project is to offer a unified approach Bristol, South Gloucestershire, BANES, North Somerset and Somerset to improve employment outcomes for people with learning difficulties. The key commitments are to empower people with learning difficulties, develop independence and support a seamless transition into the workplace.

The project will also be working with employers to raise awareness to help them to understand the benefit of an inclusive and diverse work forces.

As part of this project Weston College have employed SEND Employment Navigators that are ready to work with participants to develop a training programmes to develop the skills needed and their confidence in applying for the right job alongside supporting employers to create inclusive workplaces. The Navigators can support with:

- Matching participants to the right job pathway
- Accessing training to develop the skills ready for work
- Arranging work placements
- Designing CV's
- Supporting with job searching and completing applications forms
- Preparing for job interviews
- Working with employers to understand the support needed
- Developing digital skills
- Accessing computer equipment.

The project is open to anyone who lives in the North Somerset, is over 16, is not in employment and has a learning difficulty or learning disability (SEND).

SUCCESS STORIES

Great feedback from a learner's Mum.

Well done to Dave, Ade, Francis, Bakr, Ray and all involved in teaching and supporting Charlotte throughout this challenging year, this is excellent recognition.

Dear Dr Phillips

My daughter is currently a first year student studying for the BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Construction and the Build Environment (Civil Engineering) at your South West Skills Campus.

I wanted to express how amazing the whole team on this course has been throughout this academic year. Since our initial visit back at the beginning of September 2021 David LeFeuvre and his team have gone out of their way to support us.

We live in South Wales and looked at several local education providers for my daughter's next step after leaving school and weren't happy with what we found until we contacted Weston College. From the onset we were made to feel welcome and despite missing the first week of the course everyone went above and beyond to help my daughter settle in and tolerated my abundance of emails and questions.

The whole team is continually on hand to support my daughter, who I am pleased to say appears to be achieving extremely well. Although she has of course worked incredibly hard I honestly believe her achievements are thanks to the fantastic teaching, together with the encouragement and the support from your staff, they are quite simply superb.

On any occasion that I've needed to request information or advice I have never been let down and have always received a quick response, which I extremely appreciate.

My daughter is looking forward to starting her Industry Placement during the summer break which she has been lucky enough to find. We are grateful to Ray Stewart for acting quickly in communicating with the company to allow her to get on site at the start of the job, which we believe will be an extremely beneficial placement.

We are living and working in unsettled and unusual times due to Covid 19 restrictions however your staff are a credit to the College. Their dedication, care for the students, support and knowledge has been second to none and as a parent I am delighted with everything and so pleased that we chose to travel further a field for my daughters education. I want to offer a heartfelt and sincere thank you to all the team and felt it was important to express my feelings to you as College Principal.

I would happily recommend Weston College to anyone looking for further education and that is thanks to the wonderful staff. I would appreciate it if you could pass on my gratitude and thanks to David LeFeuvre, Ade Abimbola, Francis Ekechukwu, Bakr Al-Azzawi and Ray Stewart who are all outstanding individuals and an asset to your College!

SUCCESS STORIES

EMMA HOYAL



STAR of the Month nomination for Great Western Hospitals Apprentice Alexandra.

We are incredibly proud of Health Care Assistant Alexa who received the following letter from HR this week in her workplace.

Alexa is due to complete her apprenticeship in August 2021 and is on target to complete her Senior Healthcare Support Assistant Apprenticeship standard shortly.

We look forward to seeing her EPA progress and continued success in her job role through service, teamwork and ambition.

Great Western Hospitals 
NHS Foundation Trust

The Great Western Hospital
Marlborough Road
Swindon

STAR 
Service, Teamwork, Ambition, Respect

Whilst I am delighted to advise that you were nominated for the 'STAR of the Month' award for April 2021, unfortunately on this occasion you have not been successful.

However, to be nominated by the people you work with every day is a great achievement and shows how valued you are by your colleagues.

***SERVICE** – putting patients first. Working as part of an MDT to improve the care of patients whose skin is at risk of skin deterioration due to pressure damage whilst in hospital. Working on developing the assessment of these patients and implementing new action plan of care working on identification and prevention. Personalising the nurse rounding charts specifically for Forest patients, allowing an individual approach to patient care. Lauren and Alexa have worked on this project together with enthusiasm and positivity and have worked very hard at encouraging colleagues and peers to follow this programmed approach to care.*

***TEAMWORK** – working together. This work was identified during the wards regular Quality Improvement meetings. Both individuals have worked as a small team together and as part of the wider QI team, contributing equally and sharing their experiences to help develop the programme and sharing with others.*

***AMBITION** – aspiring to provide the best service possible at every patient contact. Both Lauren and Alexa are aspiring to improve the current situation and not allowing existing habits or ways of working to prevent improvement and the drive to improve quality. Both being inspirational to others and leading by example.*

***RESPECT** – acting with integrity. Whilst exploring this project both Alexa and Lauren have treated colleagues with respect and making positive suggestions to encourage change. Listening to colleagues and using their skill set to explain and demonstrate how changes can impact on the quality of care we provide. Embracing change based on evidence and knowledge from others shows respect.*

This recognition shows that you are living the Trust values of Service, Teamwork, Ambition and Respect (STAR) in everything you do. We very much appreciate your hard work.

Congratulations and well done.

SUCCESS STORIES



SARAH-JANE LEWIS

Well done to Ellie, Health and Social Care Extended National Diploma Student.

One of my Level 3 BTEC students has just completed her course with D*D*D* and is off to study midwifery in September at UWE, she has discovered she has won a BRONZE BTEC award due to be awarded in July at the BTEC ceremony online celebration.

She was an amazing student who completed all of her assignments and took exams where she could whilst working in the community as a carer up to 60 hours a week all through the worst times of the pandemic. At present she has completed training as a vaccinator and is employed to do this through the NHS until her degree starts in September.

A great positive story to end a difficult couple of years for these BTEC students.

DO YOU HAVE FAMILY/FRIENDS WHO WOULD LIKE TO WORK FOR THE COLLEGE GROUP?

Please share our current vacancies:

BACE Technician

Could you support our Building, Automotive & Civil Engineering staff team to create an exciting training environment for our students?

Curriculum Manager – HMP Guys Marsh

Do you want to help transform life opportunities? Have you ever considered the unique challenge of Prison Education? Managing education delivery in prisons is an incredibly rewarding challenge with the benefits of mainstream education.

IT Analyst

As an IT Analyst, you will part of a busy team of experienced IT professionals at the heart of delivering outstanding IT services and resources. The team are responsible for the management of specialist IT functions, administration of systems and project management and delivery.

HE Customer Services Apprentice (Level 3)

This is an exciting and varied Apprenticeship opportunity within the HE Directorate, where you will develop your customer service skills supporting recruitment and students on programme to have a positive experience.

Lecturer Forklift Operations – HMP Channing's Wood

Do you want to help transform life opportunities? Have you ever considered the unique challenge of Prison Education? Teaching in prisons is an incredibly rewarding challenge with the benefits of mainstream education.

For more information or to see other roles available visit our [website](#).

EVENTS



www.weston.ac.uk/news-and-events/events

DON'T MISS UPCOMING EVENTS FOR EITHER YOURSELF OR YOUR STUDENTS.

OR PLEASE SHARE WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS WHO MAY BE INTERESTED IN STUDYING AT THE COLLEGE OR BECOMING A BUSINESS PARTNER.

01 APRIL 2021
30 SEP 2021

300 IN 100

19 JULY 2021
30 JULY 2021

ELEVATE

JUNE 2021

**SKILLS
SURGERIES**

30 JUNE 2021

WE'RE BACK!
VISIT US ON
CAMPUS FOR
OPEN EVENING

**OPEN
EVENING**

WANT TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE **NEXT EDITION?**



**PLEASE EMAIL YOUR UPDATES, REASONS TO
CELEBRATE AND NEWS TO SHARE**



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MY VIRTUAL COLLEGE