

The Connexions careers newsletter for staff in schools and colleges

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Editor's letter

We recently e-mailed you to ask you to let us know your **careers software licence requirements** for 2012-13. Thanks to everyone who has responded already – your prompt response is very much appreciated. However, don't worry if you've missed the deadline – you can still order! Training for staff is available on the programs so that you can ensure your young people get the most from them.

We have received an update on the **Statutory Guidance to schools** that the government is due to publish imminently.* On Monday 12 March, John Hayes MP, Minister for Further Education, Skills and Lifelong Learning, made the following statement for publication:

“The new statutory guidance to schools on Section 29 of the Education Act 2011 will underline the new legal duty on schools to secure independent and impartial careers advice and guidance. It will not be sufficient for schools to employ their own careers professional, good though they may be, and then rely on signposting to a website, excellent as that may be.

Young people benefit from face-to-face careers guidance. As Lord Hill said in the House of Lords during the passage of the Education Bill, 'Pupils can benefit enormously from support offered in person that raises their aspirations and leads them onto a successful path'.

The Minister was also pleased to hear that ten of England's Quality Awards for Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance have already committed to work towards the national Quality in Careers Standard validation. This includes the **Inspiring IAG Award** in Greater Manchester, which is managed by Careers Solutions.

(The Quality in Careers Standard Press Notice 14.3.12)

****Breaking news: the Statutory Guidance has just been released: you can find it at www.cegnet.co.uk.***

Please send any feedback on and/or contributions for **Connexions News** to:
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Connexions Support

INFORMATION SERVICES

The Information Team is managed by Gareth Nixon, Senior Development and Information Manager and staffed by Sara Osborne, Senior Information Adviser and Carole Pilkington, Information Adviser. We can be contacted at Lee House in Manchester (tel: 0161 245 4807/4720/4946). However, please bear with us if you can't get hold of us immediately. Sometimes work demands mean we are elsewhere but, if you leave a message or e-mail us, we'll get back to you as soon as we can.

The Information Team continues to offer a wide range of support services to schools and colleges and partner agencies. An outline of these is attached. You can put this on your noticeboard for quick and easy reference. Please contact us if you want more details about any of these, or if you wish to discuss other ways in which we may be able to help you.

To find out more about any of the Information Services, contact Gareth Nixon on 0161 245 4807, or e-mail:

Gareth.Nixon@Careers-Solutions.co.uk
Sara.Osborne@Careers-Solutions.co.uk
Carole.Pilkington@Careers-Solutions.co.uk

DEVELOPMENT TEAM SERVICES

The Development Team work with schools, colleges, work based learning providers and other partners to support the continuous improvement of careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG). We offer the following services:

- A programme of high quality training including the Diploma in Career Education and the Essential Guide series;
- Consultancy on, and audits of, CEIAG provision;
- Mentoring towards the Inspiring IAG Quality Award;

continued

- Bespoke training courses on topics such as how to support young people in making decisions and the latest policy developments.

We produce Labour Market Information (LMI) materials in a range of formats that are easily accessible and appropriate to the user. Our materials can be used to improve practitioners' understanding of the local, regional and national picture.

All materials are available through Work Matters – this web based resource is available through a subscription and focuses on the Labour Market in Greater Manchester and latest news, articles, data, jobs round-ups etc. You will also be able to access copies of cnx2lmi, the Spotlight On series and PowerPoint presentations. Work Matters is at www.wmgm.co.uk.

For more information about any of the above services contact Gareth Nixon, on 0161 245 4807 or e-mail: Gareth.Nixon@Careers-Solutions.co.uk.

CNX2JOBS TEAM

Connexions offers a free recruitment service to opportunity providers, and the Cnx2jobs Team leads Connexions staff in liaising with local employers and work based training providers to source job and training opportunities for young people.

www.cnx2jobs.com

Young people in schools can access hundreds of local and regional vacancies online using www.cnx2jobs.com. As well as jobs and apprenticeships, many of the other opportunities on the website are a first step to getting into employment or training. The interactive website provides young people and teachers with information about local opportunities such as job vacancies, Apprenticeships and work preparation programmes, and can be used during group work as well as individual job search.

"I found the cnx2jobs website really useful. I could look at vacancies without having to call into Connexions. I also liked the fact that it showed me vacancies in other areas as well as where I live"
(Nathan aged 16 from Ashton)

Vacancies for Summer Leavers

The Cnx2jobs Team manages proactive campaigns to canvass local, regional and national employers reminding them of the new entrants who will be available in the labour market as the end of the school year approaches. These campaigns are specifically designed to obtain suitable vacancies for school leavers and vacancies are advertised on www.cnx2jobs.com and via Connexions Personal Advisers linked to schools.

For more information about any of the above services contact Julie Leese on 0161 245 4945 or e-mail: Julie.Leese@Careers-Solutions.co.uk

Education and Training News

IMPROVING QUALITY IN APPRENTICESHIPS

The government has announced further reforms to safeguard and improve the quality and standards of Apprenticeships to ensure that every Apprenticeship meets the rigorous standards apprentices and employers expect. The National Apprenticeship Service (NAS) is to develop an action plan to ensure that this happens.

From August 2012, all Apprenticeships for 16-18 year olds will be for a minimum of 12 months. Steps will also be taken to ensure all adult Apprenticeships are of sufficient length to deliver the training employers need.

The government will take forward measures to ensure all apprentices are given the opportunity to get Level 2 English and maths.

Monitoring, reporting and subcontracting will be strengthened, and action will be taken immediately to manage poor quality providers.

For more information, see www.apprenticeships.org.uk.

UNIVERSITY APPLICATIONS FALL

Figures from UCAS show that university applications from UK students for the first year of higher tuition fees are down by 8.7%. The impact is greatest in applications to English universities, with a fall of 9.9%.

Universities UK said this was lower than many had predicted, whilst the Russell Group of leading universities said that the underlying trend was still up as there were more applications than three years ago. There has also been an increase in applications from overseas.

However, there is a gender difference, with a sharper fall amongst men than amongst women – who are already in a majority.

There have also been indications of an increase in the number of UK students applying to study overseas where fees can be considerably lower.

BBC News website (Sean Coghlan) 30.1.12
www.bbc.co.uk/news

OFSTED ASKED TO DISCOURAGE GCSE EARLY ENTRY

The Education Secretary has asked the chief inspector at Ofsted to look at how the practice of entering pupils early for GCSEs can be discouraged.

He says that, whilst it can be beneficial when undertaken as part of a planned programme of accelerated progression through to A level and beyond, it is a damaging trend that is harming the interests of many pupils.

Department for Education figures show that, in 2007, there were 67,000 early entrants for English (2% of pupils) and maths (5% of pupils) GCSEs.

By 2010, this had risen to 326,000: 24% of pupils took English early and 27% took maths early.

However, a smaller proportion of early entrants gained the highest grades. It was also noted that higher attaining state schools were less likely to enter pupils early.

The Education Secretary says that the figures suggest that candidates who enter early perform worse overall than those who do not, even after resits are taken into account.

Department for Education Press Notice 8.3.12
www.education.gov.uk

THOUSANDS OF VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS TO BE OMITTED FROM SCHOOL LEAGUE TABLES

The government is to exclude over 3,000 vocational qualifications from school performance league tables from January 2015. Only 125 qualifications will be approved to feature in the league tables from that date.

This follows last year's Wolf Review of Vocational Qualifications.

Schools will be able to offer any qualification that has been accredited and approved for study by 14-16 year olds, but they won't count towards the league tables. To be counted, qualifications must:

- Offer proven progression into a broad range of further qualifications or careers
- Be at GCSE level or above
- Have a substantial proportion of external assessment
- Have grades such as A*-G (a simple pass/fail grade will be excluded)
- Have good levels of take-up amongst 14-16 year olds

Children and Young People Now (Janaki Mahadevan), 31.1.12 www.cypnow.co.uk

BARNARDO'S: BURSARY SCHEME 'UNFAIR' AND 'INADEQUATE'

Barnardo's has said that the bursary scheme with which the government has replaced the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is failing disadvantaged teenagers.

Barnardo's report, *Staying the Course*, describes widespread problems with access to finance, which is awarded on a discretionary basis. They also found that the reduced sums offered mean that students struggle to pay bus fares to college or to buy lunch.

Whilst care leavers, disabled young people and those living on benefits are guaranteed money from the bursary fund, Barnardo's is urging the government to rethink the criteria for accessing bursary support. It wants £30 per week to be available for 38 weeks a year to all young people who have received free school meals.

Staying the Course is available at <http://www.barnardos.org.uk/stayingthecourse.pdf>.

Children and Young People Now (Joe Lepper), 7.2.12 www.cypnow.co.uk

Employment and labour Market News

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT: THE CRISIS WE CANNOT AFFORD

The Commission on Youth Unemployment was set up in 2011 by the Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations (ACEVO) in response to concern amongst voluntary sector leaders about youth unemployment.

The Commission, chaired by David Milliband, looked at whether anything can be done to get young people ready for and into work. It concluded that the answer was yes, but that young people, government, communities and employers need to 'up their game'.

The Commission has a simple vision that young people themselves, and the private, public and voluntary sectors rally behind a clear and national goal to abolish long-term youth unemployment, with all young people able to follow a journey from education to career, and with long-term exclusion from the labour market simply not an option.

However, it concluded that we are a long way from that goal and that action is needed in four areas if things are to change:

- Young people need more job opportunities to be available in 2012
- Young people need better preparation and motivation for work
- Young people not heading for university need clear high quality options for progression
- Young people need reform of the welfare state, including guaranteed back-to-work support

The Commission's report, *Youth Unemployment: the crisis we cannot afford*, can be found at a number of online locations including <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/cmipo/publications/other/youthunemployment.pdf>

PAYMENT-BY-RESULTS SCHEME ANNOUNCED TO GET YOUNG PEOPLE INTO WORK OR TRAINING

A new project has been launched as part of the Youth Contract (announced by the government last autumn as part of Building Engagement, Building Futures: see <http://www.education.gov.uk/a00200853/building-engagement-building-futures> for more information) to get young people into work or training.

It is aimed at 55,000 16-17 year olds without any GCSEs at grade C. Firms and charities will be able to bid for a payment-by-results scheme, and will be free to decide their approach. They will only receive the full payment once the young person has remained in work or training for a year.

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The aim of the Youth Contract is to get every unemployed young person earning or learning again before long-term damage is done. The government's intention is that, from April 2012, it will provide nearly half a million new opportunities for young people, including Apprenticeships and work experience placements, as well as cash payments to encourage employers to recruit young people.

However, there has been criticism of the Youth Contract which, it is claimed, won't help 95% of the 1.1 million plus young people who are described as NEET (not in education, employment or training).

The Department of Work and Pensions is encouraging employers to pledge their support for the Youth Contract at www.dwp.gov.uk/youth-contract/.

BBC News website (Sean Coghlan) 21.2.12
www.bbc.co.uk/news
Office of the Deputy Prime Minister Press
Release 5.1.12 www.dpm.cabinetoffice.gov.uk

WORK EXPERIENCE SANCTION REMOVED FOR EARLY LEAVERS

Following pressure from companies and Right to Work campaigners, the government has dropped the sanction of loss of benefits for young people who leave a voluntary eight-week work experience programme (part of the Youth Contract) after the first week.

The scheme has also been the subject of controversy over concerns that young people were being used as 'slave labour' in menial jobs.

A number of companies have withdrawn from the scheme, although the Department for Work and Pensions says that a number of other companies have contacted them "wanting to get involved".

The sanction of removing benefits will remain in some circumstances, including gross misconduct.

Children and Young People Now (Neil Puffett), 1.3.12 www.cypnow.co.uk
BBC News website 29.2.12
www.bbc.co.uk/news

NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE

The government has announced that the following rates for the National Minimum Wage will come into effect on 1 October 2012:

- The adult rate will increase by 11p to £6.19 an hour
- The rate for 18-20 year olds will remain at £4.98 an hour
- The rate for 16-17 year olds will remain at £3.68 an hour
- The rate for Apprentices will increase by 5p to £2.65 an hour

There has been criticism of the decision to freeze rates for young people from organisations such as YMCA, the British Youth Council and Unison.

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills Press Release 19.3.12
<http://nds.coi.gov.uk>
Children and Young People Now (Janaki Mahadevan), 20.1.12 www.cypnow.co.uk

MANUFACTURING ADVISORY SERVICE

The new Manufacturing Advisory Service (MAS) is available to all manufacturing businesses across England and will focus on helping small and medium businesses grow.

MAS will offer support at five levels:

1. Enquiries answered by experienced advisers, plus a website offering a range of online support
2. On-site specialist manufacturing diagnostic review
3. Training and networking events
4. Consultancy at three tiers (with funding for development)
5. Referral for support from partner organisation

continued

Small manufacturing businesses will also have access to a new initiative to improve the global competitiveness of UK advanced manufacturing supply chains.

More information is available at www.mymas.org.

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills press notice via COI 3.1.12
<http://nds.coi.uk>

‘MORE GRADUATES IN LOW SKILLED JOBS’

New figures from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) suggest that more than a third of recent graduates were in non-graduate jobs at the end of 2011, up from about a quarter in 2001. The figures also suggest about a fifth of new graduates were unemployed.

BBC News website (Judith Burns) 6.3.12
www.bbc.co.uk/news

People and Projects

POSITIVE FOR YOUTH

In December 2011 the government published its strategy for young people and youth services, calling on every local authority to get young people involved in local decision-making.

The statement brings together for the first time all of the government’s policies for young people aged 13-19. It covers a wide range of issues from education and youth services, to health, crime and housing, with nine government department involved in developing it. Young people and youth professionals have also been involved.

Positive for Youth: A new approach to cross-government policy for young people aged 13 to 19 summarises 40 areas where the government has committed to take action, including reforming education, raising the participation age, supporting young people to

participate in learning and work, targeting Apprenticeships more on young adults, transforming vocational education, promoting work experience, encouraging volunteering for all age groups, promoting young people’s mental health and publishing annually new measures on outcomes for young people. These are:

- % of 16 to 18s reporting that they are satisfied with their lives
- % of 16 to 19s volunteering
- % of 16 and 17 year olds in education and work-based learning
- % of 18 year olds in education, employment or training
- % of young people aged 19 who have claimed free school meals achieving level 3 (to focus on improving their outcomes relative to others)
- % of 19 year olds achieving Level 2
- % of 10 to 17 year olds who have not had any contact with the criminal justice system (as measured by a reprimand, warning or conviction)
- % of 11 to 15 year olds misusing drugs and alcohol
- conceptions per 1000 15 to 17 year olds

Positive for Youth: A new approach to cross-government policy for young people aged 13 to 19 is at

<http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/youngpeople/Positive%20for%20Youth/>.

DOES EVERY CHILD MATTER?

The Economic and Social Research Council funded research to find out what life is like for disabled children and young people in the context of policy changes after the previous government took power in 1997.

The researchers found that disabled children and young people continue to face discrimination, bullying and access problems, despite policies such as Aiming Higher for Disabled Children.

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The researchers call for a change of attitude towards disability so that diversity is not only valued, but promoted. They say the focus should be on what support the child or young person needs, and not on what is 'wrong' with them.

More on the report, 'Does Every Child Matter, Post Blair? The interconnections of disabled childhoods', is available at www.esrc.ac.uk.

2,700 YOUTH GROUP VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

The government has announced a £10m cash injection to help attract and train 2,700 new volunteers to uniformed youth work to provide an additional 400 youth groups.

The money will be targeted at 11 deprived areas, including Manchester, where it is intended to have the biggest impact.

The Scout Association alone has a waiting list of 30,000 young people, but has struggled in recent years to attract enough volunteers to deal with demand.

This new money comes against a background of widespread cuts to non-uniformed youth work.

There have been questions asked about whether sufficient volunteers can be recruited in the designated areas. A study by Volunteering England in 2009 found an 80% increase in people who said they were willing to volunteer, but later studies found that this didn't actually translate into more people giving their time.

If the scheme is to succeed, new and imaginative ways of engaging volunteers must be found. This may include putting limits on the length of time people will be asked to volunteer, rather than asking them to commit indefinitely.

Children and Young People Now (Neil Puffett), 21.2.12 www.cypnow.co.uk

NATIONAL CITIZEN SERVICE ENTERS SECOND YEAR

The National Citizen Service (NCS) has launched its second year with 30,000 places for 16 year olds. The aim of the NCS is to give young people the skills, values and confidence they need to move into adulthood. Participants will be involved with projects such as helping the homeless, teaching children sport and refurbishing local youth centres.

The government hopes to cater for 90,000 young people by 2014, with the scheme eventually being available for all 16 year olds. The pilot, last year, led to 8,500 of 11,000 places being taken up.

Children and Young People Now (Neil Puffett), 2.3.12 www.cypnow.co.uk

'UNHEALTHY CHILDREN MORE LIKELY TO BE UNHAPPY'

The Economic and Social Research Council has found that children and young people who choose unhealthy activities have much lower happiness levels than those with healthier lifestyles.

The study of 40,000 UK households found that unhealthy lifestyles (including alcohol consumption and smoking) impacted on happiness, regardless of gender, age, family income or parent's education.

A survey of 10-15 year olds found that those who didn't smoke were five times more likely to be happy than smokers. Those who drank alcohol were five to six times more likely to be unhappy than those who did not. Participating in more hours of sport per week also increased the likelihood of happiness.

The research showed that 12-13 is the age when young people stop healthy habits, and that the more control young people had over their lifestyle choices, the more their food and drink consumption became noticeably less healthy.

Children and Young People Now (Pui-Guan Man), 2.3.12 www.cypnow.co.uk

EXTRA MONEY FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The government has provided extra money to boost the availability of talking therapies to children and young people with mental health problems.

This will extend the Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) programme, making a wider range of psychological therapies available to more young people with mental health problems, including eating disorders, depressions, self harm and conduct issues related to Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

The money will also pay for training on talking therapies for NHS staff and professionals who work with young people, such as teachers, social workers, youth workers and counsellors.

One in 10 children aged 5-16 years has a clinically diagnosable mental health problem. Half of adults with long-term mental health problems experienced their first symptoms before the age of 14.

Children and Young People Now (Lauren Higgs), 29.2.12 www.cypnow.co.uk

IMPROVING THE MENTAL HEALTH OF LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

A new report from YoungMinds, the youth mental health charity, says that around 60% of Looked After Children and Young People have some level of mental health problem. With ever increasing numbers of children being taken into care, YoungMinds has warned that services that come into contact with Looked After Children and Young People need to be much more aware of their mental health needs.

Key findings include:

- Young people repeatedly stated that the only representation of children in care that others know is the TV character Tracy Beaker and that they are tired of telling peers that they are 'not like Tracy Beaker'

- Many young people had a fairly negative perception of mental health services: those who hadn't accessed services were wary and suggested that they were for people who are particularly unwell – words such as "mad" and "mental" were used to describe who services may be aimed at
- Most of the young people said they felt their emotional needs were misunderstood and that they found it difficult to talk about their emotional needs at school, especially because staff did not have experience of the care system
- They were often anxious when they moved into placements and that their perception of foster care and residential care were very different from reality

The report concludes with recommendations for education, placements (eg foster care, residential care, secure unit) and mental health services.

The recommendations for education include:

- In order to reduce stigma, young people should have control over who has access to information about them: it is not necessary for all teaching staff to know that a young person is Looked After
- As part of the admissions "Personal Education Plan" meeting, young people should be asked about information sharing. This should be reviewed at the follow up meeting once the young person has begun to develop relationships with school staff
- In order for Looked After Young People's mental health to be supported, all staff members must have basic training around the needs and experiences of Looked After Young People so that their emotional needs are supported and they can achieve academically

The report can be found at www.youngminds.org.uk.

NEW SCHEME TO HELP MOST TROUBLED FAMILIES

The government has announced a new outreach scheme to help England's most troubled families. It will reinforce work that is already being done, and will be run on the same payment-by-results system as the Work Programme.

The support offered will include:

- Skills to help people find work, such as CV writing, job preparation, timekeeping, problem solving
- Tackling family issues – support for parenting, role models, support for needs children may have, working with schools
- Social and economic issues – debt management, money management, how to look for work
- Health and housing issues – alcohol or drug abuse, working with health agencies, issues around accommodation
- Helping those who are in work to stay in work and progress
- Identifying suitable employment opportunities and helping people get into work
- Helping to move people into the Work Programme

Department for Work and Pensions press release 3.1.12 www.dwp.gov.uk

YOUNG PEOPLE AND MONEY

A report from the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR) has concluded that the financial future of young people in the UK is an issue that needs urgent attention. YouGov conducted an online poll with 1,504 16-29 year olds with incomes below the median of £21,000 for this group. Respondents were asked about their financial security, how they feel about their future financial position, their savings and debt, their resilience, their attitudes to saving and pensions and what advice they got about savings.

The report concludes that:

- While young people on low incomes feel they have some control over their lives and finances, they are not as a group financially secure
- Young people worry about their job security and meeting costs and the recent recession seems to have made this worse
- Young people appear to feel they will be less well-off than their parents' generation, although many appear unrealistically optimistic about whether they will own a home
- Income appears to make little difference to young people's attitudes, being employed or unemployed makes a big difference with unemployed young people being far more pessimistic about their futures
- There are huge gaps between the savings young people on low incomes actually have, their perceptions of what they need and the reality of what is adequate: although the majority say they have money saved for a rainy day, just one in five young people on low incomes has more than £5,000 in the bank. Almost one in three 18–29 year olds earning less than £21,000 a year has no savings or savings of less than £100
- Young people on low incomes appear not to be preparing adequately to meet longer-term financial demands, such as raising a deposit for a house or saving for old age

There is a great need, therefore, to think of new and effective ways to influence young people's attitudes towards saving and their approach to securing their financial futures. Education will play a major role in helping young people to understand why they need to save, and how much they should be saving. Advertising appears to have little influence on people's savings behaviour. The study suggests that the strongest influence on young people's savings behaviour is their parents, and this might offer the best route to success.

The report, Young People and Savings, can be found at www.ippr.org.

COMBATING GANG CULTURE

The government has announced plans to tackle gang culture in England, which will focus on early intervention, partnership working and tougher punishment.

The plans include:

- Creating an ending gangs and youth violence team, made up of community activists, NHS experts and police officers
- Consulting on whether there should be a new offence of being in possession of an illegal firearm with intent to supply
- Consulting on whether police curfews should be extended
- 'Young people's advocates' to support victims of rape and sexual abuse to work with vulnerable young people at risk of being targeted by gangs
- Mandatory knife sentences for 16 and 17 year olds
- Extending gang injunctions to 14-17 year olds
- Recruiting 4,200 health visitors and doubling the capacity of family nurse partnerships to help prevent vulnerable young people from becoming involved in gangs
- Offering pathways out of gangs, centred around work with hospitals and social care to help young people affected by gang violence, whilst those arrested will be helped with mental health or substance abuse problems

Children and Young People Now (Neil Puffett), 1.11.11; 10.2.12 www.cypnow.co.uk



Careers Solutions Information Team

Careers Solutions is the trading name of Better Choices Limited.
Providing Connexions Services in Manchester, Rochdale, Salford and Tameside
and additional services to other LA areas

Services for You

This is a summary of the services offered by Careers Solutions' Information Team. Please contact us on 0161 245 4807/4720/4946 for more details about any of these, or if you wish to discuss other ways in which we may be able to help you.

SOFTWARE AGENCIES:

Kudos, Careerscape, LaunchPad, Adult Directions, Higher Ideas, JED, Ani-MODS, eCLIPS, Exodus and Eisodos are available at discounted cost.

Licences run from 1 April – 31 March each year, and you are given the option of renewing licences in the early spring. Please contact us if you wish to subscribe at other times.

In addition, we can supply *Real Game* and *Fast Tomato*.

CLIPS:

A series of over 530 annually updated Connexions/careers information leaflets is available on subscription. The leaflets cover thousands of education, training and career opportunities, as well as general information relating to the whole Connexions agenda. Subscribers are free to reproduce CLIPS leaflets for their own use and that of their students.

CLIPS is the paper version of eCLIPS.

RESOURCE LOAN SYSTEM:

A range of Connexions/careers resources, including videos and careers education materials, is available for loan to schools, colleges and others.

(Please note that copyright waivers on the materials apply only to Careers Solutions as the purchasing organisation.)

You can also visit the Resource Base at our Connexions Office in Wythenshawe, Manchester to view resources.

Please ring to arrange a time.

CONNEXIONS/CAREERS LIBRARY CONSULTANCY:

Our consultancy service can help you evaluate and develop your Connexions or careers library.

Consultancy time can be used to examine and discuss topics such as the best location, layout and organisation for the library, access to it, and systems to maintain it in a comprehensive, current and simple-to-use style. It can also include discussion about reference books and other materials, with recommendations on the best resources for each library.

Support, advice and training on the use of software packages and CLIPS are also available as part of the consultancy, as is training for student librarians using our *YPIC Resource Pack*.

CONNEXIONS/CAREERS LIBRARY SIGNS/LABELS:

A set of signage to help and encourage students to use the Connexions/careers library can be purchased. This includes library box labels using the Connexions Resource Centre Index (CRCI).

We can also prepare A3 and A4 posters to advise your students of when your Connexions PA is in school/college.