

## Unity

Following on from the nationally recognised Chefs in Training programme which was ranked as 'outstanding' by Ofsted, Northamptonshire County Council's Community Learning Team is now running a community based course called Unity.

Unity is a two day course, run over 40 weeks for adults with learning difficulties from 19 to 64 and is aimed at people who would like to work within food, hospitality and community projects. People on Unity will gain a qualification and skills for independence.

Rushden and Higham United Football Club are the venue hosts for Unity, enabling a number of exciting new community ventures to take place within the community. This includes the Hayden Road community coffee shop that is open four days a week.

### For an application pack or more information on Unity please contact:



Unity email:  
[unity@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:unity@northamptonshire.gov.uk)



Nicola Pothecary 07734 287681  
[npothecary@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:npothecary@northamptonshire.gov.uk)  
or  
Shelly Chadbon 07709 399290  
[mchadbon@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:mchadbon@northamptonshire.gov.uk)

## Where can you find us?

We are Northamptonshire based and work with different voluntary and community groups.

We work in schools, community centres, voluntary organisations, social clubs, faith centres, children's centres and libraries and are always looking for new partners.

## my contacts

### How to contact us:



#### CommUnity Learning Manager

Anne Wilshin  
07540 673982



#### Admin Support

Carol Clarke  
01604 237119



Email:  
[communitylearning@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:communitylearning@northamptonshire.gov.uk)

### Your area coordinators are:



Northampton – Hazel Johnston  
07540 669753  
Corby – Heather Dommett  
07834 496013  
Kettering – Sue Yates  
07834 006311  
Wellingborough – Helen Doel  
07834 006312  
Rushden – Dave Stuttle  
07834 006148

my  
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# Welcome to the CommUnity Learning Information Booklet



Northamptonshire  
County Council



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## What is CommUnity Learning about:

- Learning something new
- Taking informal courses and training
- Finding volunteering opportunities
- Returning to work
- Writing CVs

Our courses are free\* and are either two hour 'Bitesize' activities or short 'Taster' courses of up to eight, two hour sessions.

We can also give you one to one support with writing your CV, improving your interview skills and returning to learning or work.

\* There may be a small charge to cover the cost of materials

## Our courses

We can offer a wide range of courses, including:

- IT for the terrified
- Introduction to digital photography
- Introduction to the Internet and emails
- Tracing your family history
- Back to work skills
- Confidence building
- Introduction to counselling
- Introduction to sign language
- Money management
- Cooking on a budget
- Healthy eating
- Microwave cookery
- Glass painting
- Card making
- Bag making
- Exploring our history
- Committee skills
- Unity – employability
- Unity – personal and social development

**All our tutors are friendly and helpful and fun!!!**

## Information for Partners

### Who are we?

CommUnity Learning is a project funded by the Skills Funding Agency and managed by Northamptonshire County Council's Adult Learning Service.

### The purpose of the CommUnity Learning Programme:

To support local voluntary and community sector organisations to develop their capacity to deliver learning opportunities for residents of disadvantaged neighbourhoods.

### The Strategy:

- To support voluntary and community based organisations to extend the range of their adult learning activities and become Community Learning Centres
- Develop community-based networks of voluntary and community organisations who will encourage and enable those not currently participating in learning to do so

### How are we evaluated?

In June 2010 we were evaluated by Ofsted achieving a Grade 2 – Good.

The Inspector made these observations:-

- Much good teaching and learning. All lessons effective in engaging learners
- Good partnership working to engage and meet the needs of disadvantaged communities
- Teamwork is strong. Leadership and management are effective
- Equality of opportunity is appropriately addressed during lessons. There is an atmosphere of mutual respect between learners

- Lessons are well planned, with much attention to the needs of the individuals and the community
- The standard of learners' work is better than would normally be expected on such short courses

### What do we offer?

We offer learning opportunities for our partners' clients. These often take the form of relationship and confidence building events such as coffee mornings and fun learning activities such as card making, cookery or digital photography. These events are then developed into more formal sessions by the tutors such as IT for the terrified or back to work skills, then progressed further by creating links with our colleagues in the Family Learning team.

We also deliver one to one and groups sessions in Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) through the NextStep contract. We can help people with CVs, give information about jobs and employment, and show people how to access information so that they can achieve their goals.

### What do we need from our partners?

We need partners who:

- Are keen to develop learning opportunities as part of building communities
- Can offer us premises from which we can reach people who would normally be excluded from learning either because of their circumstances or because of their past learning experiences
- Can provide us with safe, accessible premises which are suitable for informal learning sessions
- Have public liability insurance and will honour our limits on class sizes and other aspects of our risk assessment procedure