Raising Expectations: staying in education and training post-16

CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM

The closing date for this consultation is:
14 June 2007
Your comments must reach us by that date.

department for education and skills
THIS FORM IS NOT INTERACTIVE. If you wish to respond electronically please use the online or offline response facility available on the Department for Education and Skills e-consultation website (http://www.dfes.gov.uk/consultations).

The information you provide in your response will be subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and Environmental Information Regulations, which allow public access to information held by the Department. This does not necessarily mean that your response can be made available to the public as there are exemptions relating to information provided in confidence and information to which the Data Protection Act 1998 applies. You may request confidentiality by ticking the box provided, but you should note that neither this, nor an automatically-generated e-mail confidentiality statement, will necessarily exclude the public right of access.

Please tick if you want us to keep your response confidential. ☐
If you have a query relating to the consultation process you can contact the Consultation Unit on:

Telephone: 01928 794 888
Fax: 01928 794 113
e-mail: consultation.unit@dfes.gsi.gov.uk

For any other enquiries please contact the Department for Education and Skills Helpline:

Telephone: 0870 000 2288
e-mail: info@dfes.gsi.gov.uk
Which of the following best describes you:

- Young person under 18
- Parent or carer
- Teaching staff
- Professional working with young people
- Governor
- Educational institution/learning provider (please specify)
- Employer
- Local authority
- Head teacher/college principal/leader of other educational institution
- Other (please specify):

Chapter 2: The benefits of requiring participation

1. Do you agree that there is a case for introducing compulsory participation to age 18?

   - Yes
   - No
   - Not sure

Comments:
Chapter 3: A new requirement to participate

In paragraphs 3.2 – 3.10 we set out our central proposal for a requirement to participate.

2. Do you agree that participation should include participation in school, college, work-based learning and accredited training provided by an employer?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Not sure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments:

3. Do you agree that the requirement should include a requirement to work towards accredited qualifications?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Not sure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments:
4. Do you agree that for those who are not in employment for a significant part of the week, participation should be in full time education?

Yes ☐  No ☐  Not sure ☐

5. Should full time education be defined for this purpose as at least 16 hours of guided learning per week?

Yes ☐  No, should be more ☐  No, should be less ☐  Not sure ☐

Comments:

6. Do you agree that a young person who is employed could participate part time?

Yes ☐  No ☐  Not sure ☐
7. Is a minimum of 280 hours of guided learning per year appropriate for a young person who is employed?  

- Yes
- No, should be more
- No, should be less
- Not sure

Comments:

The central proposition outlined in 3.2 – 3.10 would require a young person to participate until their 18th birthday. An alternative described in para 3.11 would require a young person to participate until either their 18th birthday or they achieve qualifications at level 2, whichever is the earlier.

8. Which version of the policy do you prefer?  

- 18th birthday
- 18th birthday or achievement of level 2, whichever earlier

Comments:
Chapter 4: A suitable route for every young person

9. Do you agree that, taken together, the routes outlined in this chapter mean that there will be an appropriate and engaging option for all 16 and 17 year olds by 2013?

   Yes  No  Not sure

Comments:

10. Should there be requirements for young people who are training to do more than just an accredited occupational qualification? (for example, should they be expected to do functional English or maths and/or wider technical education?)

   Yes  No  Not sure

If Yes, what requirements?

Comments:
Chapter 5: Enabling all young people to participate

11. Do you agree financial support should still be provided to young people from low income households if participation is compulsory?

   Yes  No  Not sure

12. What would be the right financial support arrangements for young people required to participate to age 18?

   Comments:

13. Should we consider other incentives, such as withholding driving licences from 17 year olds who are not participating in education or training?

   Yes  No  Not sure

   Comments:
14. Would the proposals outlined here about support and guidance be enough to ensure that all young people are able to participate, regardless of their personal circumstances?

Yes  No  Not sure

Comments:

Chapter 6: Employers playing their part

15. Would the proposals outlined in this chapter provide employers with the right framework to help make sure all 16 and 17 year olds are participating in valuable learning, including those who want to learn as they work?

Yes  No  Not sure

Comments:
16. Given the benefits of a better skilled workforce, what responsibilities should employers have to encourage young people to participate in education and training?

Comments:

Chapter 7: Making sure young people participate

17. Do you agree that there should be a system of enforcement attached to any new requirement to participate, used only as a last resort?

Yes  No  Not sure

Comments:
18. Is it right that the primary responsibility for attending at age 16 and 17 should rest with young people themselves?

Yes ☐  No ☐  Not sure ☐

Comments:

19. Do you agree that if a parent of a young person is helping them to break the law, it should be possible to hold them accountable as well?

Yes ☐  No ☐  Not sure ☐

Comments:
20. Is the process outlined in this chapter the right way to re-engage young people and enforce the requirement?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Not sure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments:

...
Please use this space for any general comments you would like to make.

Comments:

Please let us have your views on responding to this consultation (for example, were the number and type of questions about right? Was it easy to find, understand and complete?).

Comments:

Thank you for taking the time to let us have your views. We do not intend to acknowledge individual response unless you place an ‘X’ in the box below.

Please acknowledge this reply ☐
Here at the Department for Education and Skills we carry out our research on many different topics and consultations. As your views are valuable to us, would it be alright if we were to contact you again from time to time either for research or to send through consultation documents?

Yes  No

All UK national public consultations are required to conform to the following standards:

1. Consult widely throughout the process, allowing a minimum of 12 weeks for written consultation at least once during the development of the policy.

2. Be clear about what your proposals are, who may be affected, what questions are being asked and the timescale for responses.

3. Ensure that your consultation is clear, concise and widely accessible.

4. Give feedback regarding the responses received and how the consultation process influenced the policy.

5. Monitor your department’s effectiveness at consultation, including through the use of a designated consultation co-ordinator.

6. Ensure your consultation follows better regulation best practice, including carrying out a Regulatory Impact Assessment if appropriate.

Further information on the Code of Practice can be accessed through the Cabinet Office Website: http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/regulation/consultation-guidance/content/introduction/index.asp

**Thank you for taking time to respond to this consultation.**

Completed questionnaires and other responses should be sent to the address shown below by 14 June 2007.

**Send by post to:**

Consultation Unit, Area 1A, Castle View House, East Lane, Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 2GJ

**Send by e-mail to:** raising.participation@dfes.gsi.gov.uk