EDITION 4 BROUGHT TO YOU BY WIGAN & LEIGH COLLEGE

PROFESSOR BRIAN COX ON EXPLORING THE UNIVERSE



UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL WITH PRIMATES AT MONKEY FOREST



PAGE 6

WORKSHOP WITH INVICTUS GAMES GOLD MEDAL WINNER AND COACH



PAGE 1

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OPEN EVENING

CREATING OUTSTANDING FUTURES

WIGAN CENTRES

4.30pm - 7.30pm

Monday 29 April 2019

PARSONS WALK CENTRE WN1 1RR

SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS WN1 1RR

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN ENGINEERING

PAGEFIELD CENTRE WN1 2JH

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BUILDING BRIDGES BETWEEN COLLEGE AND COMMUNITY



Joinery apprentice Ian Hide battled it out with colleges from across the UK to win Apprentice of the Year.

lan visited his former school to complete a community upcycling project for the finals of Gorilla Glue's national competition to find the UK's most talented and tough apprentice.

Having won the regional heat, Ian used his expertise to build a bridge for Golborne High School for the finals.

The 29-year-old was set the challenge of creating

something made from reclaimed timber that would also benefit the community.

When he discovered that the wetlands behind his former school needed a bridge to cut across the water, lan decided this was the perfect project to showcase his talents and give back to the community.

Ian currently serves in the Army Reserves as a Corporal in the Royal Engineers and has lots of experience building bridges.

He enrolled at College to gain a recognised qualification in a bid to become a self-employed tradesman.

lan attends once a week and works at Wigan based joinery and building company, Mint Northwest Ltd the rest of the week.

Find Your Role will be a second of work and the second of work and t

Rolls Royce, RAF, Network Rail, BAE Systems, NHS, Seqirus and Sellafield Ltd were just some of the employers exhibiting at annual careers fairs held across all centres

The event, hosted by the College's Fab Futures team, is to prepare students for the world of work.

Madeline McDonald, Engineer Project Manager for Rolls Royce, said:

"Students have been keen to get involved and find out about our apprenticeship and graduate schemes."

"Not everyone is aware of what we do. For instance,

we build and design nuclear reactors for submarines. It's great to meet students face-to-face, especially young women who are underrepresented in science, technology, engineering and maths careers."

Current students met employers to discuss roles in their companies, next steps to securing positions and how to build employability skills during their studies.

Lauren Jones, Network Rail Project Manager, added: "We are working on the Wigan Depot Springs Branch at the moment and we want to develop career opportunities. We offer plenty of other roles besides engineering - we also have a great apprenticeship scheme".

Health screening for furry friends

Resident rabbits and rodents received a clean bill of health when Animal Management students carried out a series of checks, as part of their second year Level 3 studies. The furry friends were given the once over with results recorded to monitor health changes over time.

Students have access to a

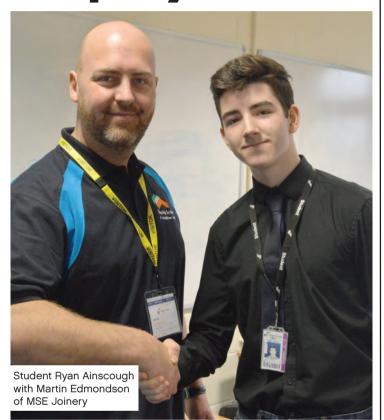
range of species including reptiles, insects, dogs and rodents in College, as well as other animals at sensory farms, zoos and rescue centres in the region.



Guinea pig patient passes health check



Carpentry company helps prepare students for employment



An Atherton based company helped Carpentry and Joinery students combat interview nerves at the College's Pagefield Centre.

Martin Edmondson, from MSE Joinery, carried out mock interviews to help learners appreciate the reality of being shortlisted for a job in the sector.

Martin, who was a former Level 3 bench apprentice at the College, now runs his own domestic joinery and commercial glazing systems business. And he employs three Wigan & Leigh College apprentices.

The students were interviewed and advised on the types of questions they should ask. They were also

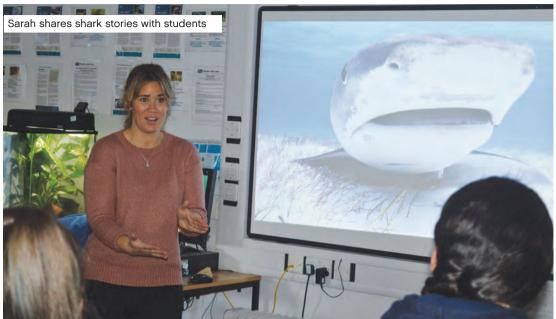
given feedback on their performance.

Martin said:

"It's great for students to come along for mock interviews, even though there isn't a job just yet. It really helps them prepare for the real thing."

Employer engagement is currently a high priority for colleges across the country, to improve students' employability skills and aid their transition to work.

Spotlight on Global Conservation



Eco journalist and published author Sarah Roberts shared her experience of working in shark conservation with Animal Management students.

The globe-trotting naturalist has worked with mongooses in Africa and travelled to the reefs off the Bahamas, as well as leading eco tours across North America to track grizzly bears.

She also advised students about the different roles available in animal management and ecology.

Sarah recently published a children's book - Somebody Swallowed Stanley - to raise awareness of marine plastic pollution.

Industry Exhibition



The very latest technology and innovation was on display for students at this year's Plumbing and Heating Exhibition held at Manchester United Football Club. Level 3 Plumbing students met leading industry manufacturers who gathered to share expertise and showcase their products.

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CAREER ROUTES TO ECOLOGY



Ecologist Anne Pritchard from the Environment Partnership outlined the routes to working in ecology during a guest lecture for Animal Management students.

Anne's career has taken her on post graduate expeditions and voluntary work overseas and in the UK, as well as consultancy roles. From studying sea turtles in Greece to forest regeneration in Thailand, she has travelled worldwide to study natural habitats for a range of species from bats, birds and badgers, to poison dart frogs and reptiles.

Students also learned more about the types of sectors they may choose to work in including business and industry, media, PR, National Government Organisations, science, research and teaching.

WEDDING FLORISTRY MASTERCLASS

This year's Wedding Industry Award winner and Royal Horticultural Society Chelsea Florist of the Year finalist, Anne Whysall, wowed Floristry students with a wedding bouquet masterclass.

Following her demonstration students created their own bridal bouquets.

ARMY RATIONS RECREATED

Creating a three course meal from basic army rations was no mean feat for Professional Cookery students, but they rose to the challenge to create a feast which included carbonara, pasta bake and jam roly poly pudding.

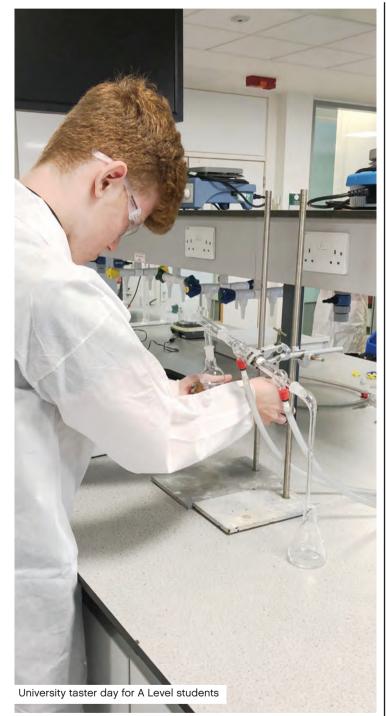
Sergeant Mike McCann and Corporal Andy Hawkins from 103 Regiment RA led students through the task to a strict deadline, working with limited ingredients from a ration pack. Dried foods such as onions and pasta, condensed milk, sweetcorn, tinned beef and other tinned and processed foods were just some of the ingredients transformed into a fantastic feast. Supported by Wigan Foundation for Technical Education, providing funding to enrich learning.



A LEVEL LIFE College Times

MONKEY BUSINESS

Students got up close and personal with primates at Monkey Forest in Stoke to learn more about animal psychology. They also took part in a break out session putting their problem solving skills and initiative to the test.



Experiments in Higher Education

A Level Chemistry students learned more about higher education options at a taster day at the University of Central Lancashire.

Students toured the university, met lecturers and students, and took part in practical experiments in the labs.





CARE OF THE ELDERLY FOCUS FOR FUTURE MEDIC

Budding medic Dillon Elsby learned more about the care of the elderly on his work experience placement at Bridgewater NHS Falls Prevention and Fracture Liaison in Ince.

Dillon's duties included visiting care homes and learning more about treating those with physical impairments, as well as the importance of movement for patients with dementia.

"I've had the opportunity to work with older people with dementia and learned about osteoporosis." said Dillon. "Work experience has given me another career option to consider such as physiotherapy."

Falls Prevention Nurse,
Donna Cunningham, added:
"Dillon is doing well and
has had positive feedback
from everyone. It's great to
mentor our future GPs and
medics."

Exploring the Universe with Professor Brian Cox



A Level students were thrilled to meet Professor Brian Cox at a special lecture at the University of Manchester.

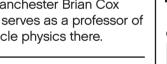
The physicist, author, broadcaster and former keyboard player for D:Ream held a lecture for young people on Exploring the universe, from the beginning to the end of time, as part of Manchester Medical Society's lecture series for young people.

A Level Tutor, Mike Grady,

"Students loved the lecture. Brian Cox is really good at making complex issues very accessible."

Professor Cox covered the origins and future of the universe, uncertainties around the understanding of it, and the vast amount of galaxies and stars.

As alumni of the University of Manchester Brian Cox also serves as a professor of particle physics there.



mergen

As part of their professional development day, A Level students learned more about the practical steps to take in an emergency incident at work. The HSE approved Emergency First Aid at Work course forms

part of the Professional Honours Programme.

Performing CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation), putting someone in the recovery position, helping a choking victim and the correct

procedure for burns and bruises were all on the agenda. The course was supported by Wigan Foundation for Technical Education, which provides funding to enrich learning.



Practical steps to performing CPR



Knife crime and the criminal justice system



The rise in knife crime in the UK and the criminal justice system's response to it was a focus for Dr Stephen Clayton when he came to speak to A Level and Public Service students.

Knife possession is up by almost one third in five years and new powers to control suspects thought to be carrying knives is

being introduced by the government in a bid to cut rising violence.

Dr Clayton, the Senior Lecturer in Global and Public Health from Edge Hill University, encouraged students to examine the issue and come up with ways of preventing knife crime.



CREATIVE VISIT TO THE CAPITAL OF COOL



University Centre creative students visited Berlin for a four-day residential trip to learn more about the city's thriving arts scene.

Foundation Degree
Creative Industries students
joined those studying the
BA Creative Practitioner
Degree in the German
capital, where they met
Justus Oehler, partner of
Pentagram - the world's
largest independently
owned design studio.

Students visited the company's Berlin office and learned more about approaches to graphic design from a global branding perspective.

And ahead of the centenary

year of Bauhaus - the experimental and radical German art movement - students visited the Bauhaus Archiv Museum. A private tour of the Buchstaben (Lettering) Museum was also on the agenda, as well as a street art and graffiti tour of the city.

The trip was free for fulltime higher education students, funded by the University Centre Advantage Scheme. The fund was set up to support students with equipment or activities relating to their studies.

OLYMPIAN LECTURE ON DYNAMICS BETWEEN ELITE ATHLETE AND COACH

Former Olympic athlete, Jenny Meadows was joined by her coach of 18 years and husband, Trevor Painter, to provide an insight into the relationship between coach and elite athlete. Foundation Degree Sports Coaching students learned more about the Wigan Harrier's career in athletics and the coaching process, including the difference between coaching development and elite level athletes. Jenny said: "It was brilliant coming to Leigh College. I travel around the country a lot so it's really nice to stay local. The facilities here are very impressive."

It was a busy day for the 800m runner. After answering questions from the sports coaching students, Jenny headed off to Salford to film an edition of Celebrity Mastermind. Her specialist topic was Wigan Warriors in the Challenge Cup from the 90s to present day.





THE KEY TO AN ALTERNATIVE TEACHING CAREER



PGCE (Post Graduate
Certificate in Education)
students found out more
about an alternative
pathway for teachers when
Neil Frankland from Wymott
Category C Prison shed
light on the philosophy and
purpose of prison teaching.

The Prison Tutor and guest speaker covered issues relating to behaviour management and access to resources within the prison system.

LEIGH COLLEGE DONATES LIFESAVING EQUIPMENT

Leigh College colleagues played a vital role in helping to save young lives, donating a defibrillator battery pack to amateur junior football club, Leigh United FC.

The high-tech equipment is used to administer a high energy electric shock to someone who is in cardiac arrest

Leigh College sports department has a strong partnership with the club, with students gaining valuable experience coaching young footballers in the community. Paul Chung, Club Secretary and Coach for Leigh United, said:

"We are grateful for the donation and are excited for the future of the affiliation and the continued work with the students."

The grassroots club doesn't receive funding and relies solely on volunteers and



donations to keep it running. Head of Sport at Leigh College, Paul Heald, added: "My son is a football player at Leigh United and had a heart condition. I hope the equipment instils confidence in other parents. They should feel safe in the knowledge that the defibrillator can save lives."

SMOOTH RUNNING DEPARTMENT SCOOPS AWARD

The College's construction department scooped an award which recognised them as the best in the North for excellence in plastering.

The National and Regional College Awards were hosted by The Worshipful Company of Plaisterers at the Plaisterers Hall in London.

The organisation recognises the highest standards of achievement in training for UK plastering and drylining.

The construction department, based at

the College's Centre of Excellence in Engineering at the Pagefield centre, won the regional certificate based on the number of students achieving NVQ/SVQ Level 2 and 3 Diplomas.

Head of Construction, Neil Campbell, said:

"Our plastering department has been delivering expert teaching for more than 70 years. We are delighted to be acknowledged as the best in the North for the training we provide."

It's the second time the College has received an award from the Plaisterers Guild and reflects industry specific training at the Pagefield Centre.

LIFE SAVING FOR BABIES

Childcare and Early Years students took part in a practical session to learn more about first aid for babies, run by Westleigh Start Well Family Centre.

They learned about why babies may stop breathing or lose consciousness and how to resuscitate them, as well as how to respond to choking and drowning. Students received certificates from Royal Life Saving UK for their efforts.





Town centre focus on fashion



Fashion students put their work on display for Wigan shoppers at the Galleries centre. Displays ranged from frocks to furnishings.





GCSE CHOICES

Around 60 pupils from St John Fisher School learned more about how GCSE choices could impact their future, at a special event held at the College by Greater Manchester Higher (GMHigher).

The Wigan hub of GMHigher is one of 29 National Collaborative Outreach Programmes based at Wigan & Leigh College and part of a network of universities and colleges offering higher education across Greater Manchester.

The aim of GMHigher is to raise aspirations and progression to higher education for young people with the potential to succeed.

The Choices event included campus tours of the Centres of Excellence in Creative Arts and in Engineering, as well as a performance by 2Engage. The performance uses comedy and sketches to allay fears about making GCSE choices and highlights the importance of making a well informed decision.

Other GMHigher activities include campus visits to universities focussing on subjects from media to maths, engineering and English.

Pupils Go Beyond at College Masterclasses



A series of masterclasses aimed at gifted and talented pupils proved a hit with schools across the Wigan borough.

The Go Beyond programme encourages deeper thinking and more in depth subject knowledge for some of the brightest pupils from 14 local schools.

Around 350 youngsters attended masterclasses in maths, science, health, media, fine art, computing, engineering, musical theatre and sport, led by the College's expert tutors and lecturers.

Megan Spencer, Deputy Head of School Liaison



and Admissions, said: "We launched the Go Beyond masterclass programme last October and we've been amazed at how many year 10 and 11 pupils have signed

up to push themselves further. The masterclasses are a great addition to our sampling programme, when year 10 pupils come in to try a taste of College life."

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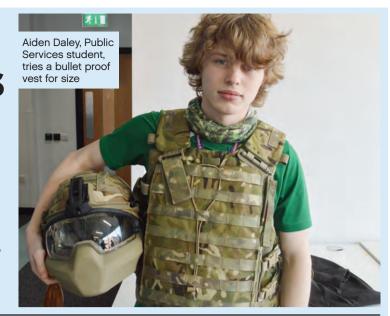
NATIONAL Army CAREERS WEEK

National, regional and local employers visited Parsons Walk Centre, Pagefield Centre and Leigh College during this year's National Careers Week - the celebration of careers guidance and free resources in education held annually in March.

Students enjoyed a packed programme of activities and employer presentations, from sectors as diverse as the armed services, insurance, health and care, finance, sports, the environment, building and housing.

careers

Careers Adviser Si Bond from Army Jobs Bolton visited Public Service students to outline their range of roles. He also advised students to be proactive and encouraged women to consider the army, where they can take up all roles, dispelling the myth of limited careers for women.



Pharmacy technicians, Lyndsey Southern and David Broomhall from Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust discussed their roles and career opportunities in pharmacy.

Lyndsey said: "A career as a pharmacy technician is something that young people may not even consider. Many are more aware of the obvious nurse or doctor roles in the health services.

"It's a really rewarding career. Apprentices are vital because we can provide training in the hospital and monitor and assess development."

nvironment Agency

Protecting homes from flooding was the focus for students attending the Environment Agency session at the Pagefield Centre, presented by Adam Chapman, Graduate Civil Engineer. Students decided on the best materials to use to save people and homes from flooding. They also learned more about civil engineering roles at the Environment Agency and other career paths for young adults.

"We spend around 70% of our funding on better protecting people and property from flooding, through large and small scale projects, including engineered and natural solutions," said Adam. "I hope the students found it helpful finding to find more about their future opportunities."





Careers in construction

UK builder Keepmoat Homes and Jones Brothers civil engineering contractors shared their tips on securing jobs in the sector and how to make applications stand out from the rest.

Students at the Pagefield Centre also heard from bricklaying and painting and decorating contractors who provided a specialist overview of their respective sectors



NEW CAREER FOR KIERAN



Kieran McCann joined the army straight after school. After two years he decided to return home to be closer to his family and to take up a career as a fitness instructor. Unavoidably his career was cut short when he became a full time carer

for his son who has type 1 diabetes.

Now Kieran wants to work again and learn a trade. He enrolled on the Level 2 Plumbing course with a view to becoming a full-time self-employed plumber.

If you want to change your career or start a new hobby, we offer a range of courses to get you started. Visit us on Tuesday 25 June 4.00pm - 7.00pm at Parsons Walk Centre to find out more.

Free maths course for healthy career progression



Beverley Smith works for the NHS as a Senior Dispenser but wanted to resit her GCSE Maths to achieve a better grade.

Beverley was able to study for free, as she didn't achieve a grade C or above in her Maths GCSE.

"I wanted to do the course to improve my GCSE result, as I didn't get a good mark at school."

"I need the qualification to progress my career. It helps with my numeracy in the work environment."



Nursing career for Access to Higher Education graduate

Former Access to Higher Education in Health student Wenda Murphy has started a new career as a nurse in the intensive care unit at Warrington Hospital.

The mature student studied the Access to HE course at Leigh College and went on to achieve a 2:1 nursing degree from the University of Chester.

"As a mature student I wanted to study with other adults."

"The course content was really relevant to my degree study."

"Lots of the work we covered on the Access course cropped up in the nursing degree."

DISTANCE LEARNING

Our free distance learning courses are aimed at adults aged 24 and over and are the perfect option for those who want to upskill and progress their careers. Many of our courses are aimed at people working in health and social care sectors with some management and professional options available.

The College works in partnership with Learning

Curve Group to develop and deliver the Level 2 accredited courses. Learners may choose when and where to study and develop their skills for work or personal development.

Courses are online or paper based. They can be started at any time throughout the year and are completed within 12 weeks.

Sandra Stapleton, Distance Learning Coordinator at the College, said:

"The beauty of our distance learning offer is that you can fit in study around work and home life, learn from home or wherever there is internet access, and if you complete the course there are no fees to pay."

To apply visit: wigan-leigh. ac.uk/adult-courses/ distance-learning



Motor Vehicle students visited Jaguar Land Rover - Halewood Operations for a tour of the two and a half mile long production plant. They saw the new Land Rover's transformation from a single sheet of steel to a completed vehicle rolling into the inspection bay in only 48 hours. The visit was funded by Wigan Foundation for Technical Education.

Wigan Foundation for Technical Education



Level 2 hairdressers visited the Wella Studio in Manchester for a demonstration on essential colour and classic cutting techniques, including how to carry out an effective client colour consultation and application techniques.

Fashion students put on a catwalk spectacular at a Debenhams fund-raiser in aid of Look Good Feel Better (LGFB): the cancer support charity that helps people manage the visible side effects of cancer treatment. The event was held at the Wigan town centre store.

Director of ABtec Computer Solutions, Phil Millward, shared his journey from apprentice to company director at a visiting lecture for computing students at Leigh College.

NEWS STUDENT IN BRIEF CONFERENCE

From mindfulness to volunteering and the issues faced by young carers, the College's latest student conference played host to a range of speakers funded by Wigan Foundation for Technical Education,

Sarah and Paul from the Brick Project in Wigan outlined a range of volunteering opportunities with the local charity, which works to combat homelessness, poverty and debt crisis in the community. Wigan and Leigh Young Carers delivered a session on the work they do to support young carers, while College chaplain Paul Sohi led a mindfulness session to de-stress frazzled students.

The conference closed with a session from Ray Douglas of Gangology on safeguarding young people from knives, gangs and youth violence through vigilance, resilience, aiming high and achieving your dreams.



For hair and beauty treatments in brand new salon environments why not visit our Image Centres?



Our students offer the latest beauty treatments and hair techniques, with full supervision from industry experienced staff.

Image Centres are based at our Parsons Walk Centre in Wigan and at Leigh College on the Leigh Sports

Salons are Wella Centres of Excellence and Elemis

skincare, NSI nail and Crown makeup specialists.

Open Monday - Friday with late nights until 9pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday.





Call 01942 761548 to book an appointment at our Wigan centre or 01942 761100 for Leigh College.

£1.8 MILLION FOR SPECIALIST ENGINEERING CENTRE

The College is set to invest £1.8 million to expand its Centre of Excellence in Engineering at the Pagefield centre.

The Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) has confirmed a substantial grant of £603,000 from its Skills Capital fund towards the project, to renew digital technologies for engineering and construction students.

Resource upgrades in robotics, artificial intelligence, mechatronics and algorithm engineering will benefit students, alongside a new additive manufacturing laboratory. The project also includes extending the Social Learning Hub, creating more space for the increase in learners. College Principal, Anna Dawe, said:



"The investment will see the expansion of facilities in response to significant growth in student numbers and will provide specialist accommodation for our degree apprentices and higher education students." The project will also include a new plumbing workshop, laboratories and expanding brickwork facilities.

Anna added: "The bid was supported by national

and local employers.

This reinforces their
commitment to supporting
the College, providing career
opportunities for Wigan
residents in priority sectors."



X FACTOR CHOREOGRAPHER HOSTS MASTERCLASS

Dance and Performing Arts students put their best feet forward when they learned more about creative choreography from one of the biggest names in the industry.

Canadian born Lukas McFarlane has danced for Taylor Swift and Celine Dion and worked creatively on hit shows such as The X Factor, Strictly Come Dancing and The Voice.

Lukas is also one of Brian

Friedman's dancers from The X Factor and shared his experience of creating live shows for audiences of more than 60,000 at events such as British Summer Time Hyde Park and the Eurovision Song Contest.

College Times SPORT 15

Paddle Power: Canoeing on the Canal





NO OF-FENCE

Level 3 Sports students supported a fencing competition, open to 96 regional primary schools. Year 3 and 4 pupils took part, with sports students scoring matches and supervising large groups, gaining invaluable practical experience.

Spotlight on Paralympics with Invictus Games gold medalist



Former British Olympic javelin thrower turned coach, Shelley Holroyd, and Invictus Games double gold medal winner, Dave Watson, hosted a coaching session with a difference for sports students.

Shelley shed light on her role identifying potential disabled athletes and gave an insight into how the Paralympics has developed over time, while students took part in a coaching session with Dave, to learn how to adapt their skills for those with varied abilities.

Dave lost both his legs and his right arm as a Guardsman on his first tour of Afghanistan. After losing his arm, naturally righthanded Dave had to learn how to throw with his left hand, an aspect students had to consider when instructing him how to hold and throw the discus.

Sports Lecturer and Quality
Co-ordinator, Rebecca
Armstrong, said: "It's
important for our future
coaches to learn how
to adapt sessions for
participants of all abilities."



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We want your journey to our outstanding facilities at Leigh College to be easy and convenient. Our FREE College bus services will transport you to the door of Leigh College and home again.



Farnworth - Westhoughton - Leigh College
Walkden - Tyldesley - Astley - Leigh College
Warrington - Golborne - Lowton - Leigh College
*Terms and Conditions apply



ADVICE & ENROLMENT EVENT

For information and advice from our specialist tutors

Tuesday 25 June
Thursday 15 August
Tuesday 27 August
4.00pm - 7.00pm
Parsons Walk Centre

Many adult learners study for FREE*



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*dependent on their circumstances



- 1. Apply online at wigan-leigh.ac.uk/apply
- 2. Call the Admissions Team 01942 761111 or email us at applications@wigan-leigh.ac.uk
- 3. Come along to our Advice & Enrolment Event.





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