Delivering results in further education

Sage Qualifications is helping further education providers to prepare learners with the skills that employers are looking for

Further education provider TDLC Training has been providing training in bookkeeping qualifications since 1996, before partnering with JobCentrePlus in 2012 to deliver qualifications for learners seeking work in the financial sector. When considering how to improve their training back in 2014, one attribute stood out as particularly important to employers.

“If you look at job adverts for admin or accounts-based roles, you will see that experience with Sage software is required in many,” says Carolyn Copleston, business development director of TDLC Training. “TDLC saw this and pushed forward to deliver these qualifications.”

TDLC approached Sage Qualifications to see if they could help them deliver their funded (through AEB, SSW and ESF initiatives) RQF-accredited accounting qualifications for blended learning. With its E-learning Portal, Sage Qualifications was able to help design and deliver learning programmes that met TDLC’s needs.

AT A GLANCE:

Customer: TDLC Learning
Location: England and Wales
Solution: Delivery of accounting qualifications via an e-learning portal

Benefits:
- The Sage Qualifications courses provide first-hand experience of using popular Sage software.
- Achieving a formal qualification gives learners with previously little formalised knowledge the skills required to get back into work.
- Courses equip learners with the skills and expertise that employers require.
“Our experience of working with Sage and Sage Qualifications has always been a positive one,” says Copleston. “They have offered us their full support as partners, and their input has been valuable.”

The biggest beneficiaries of TDLC’s work with Sage have been its learners, many of whom had little previous experience in finance and accounting. In the time since they began to offer the courses via the Sage Qualifications E-Learning Portal, 65 per cent of unemployed learners who have achieved the qualifications have gone on to find a job.

These qualifications have given learners formalised knowledge in financial skills that they had never had, enabling them to prove their understanding. Working with Sage Qualifications has enhanced our standing with the job centres we work with.

Carolyn Copleston, business development director of TDLC Training

Sage Qualifications has also worked with many other further education providers to offer materials mapped to AAT learning outcomes and assessment criteria, including formative tests and AAT-approved recognition of prior learning for the unit with Sage certification. For Knowsley Community College in Liverpool, these materials have proven to be helpful and convenient for both students and staff.

“Working with Sage Qualifications has been really easy, and it’s taken a lot of pressure off of students, as they would normally have to travel to college to practice on the PCs there,” says John Attewell, a lecturer at the college. “It makes it much easier for me to mark mock papers and give them feedback. Access to Sage Qualifications is an added benefit to any AAT Level 2 course.”

To find out how Sage Qualifications can help your organisation, please contact:

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