

# Adult Community Learning

Simon Fuller

Curriculum Manager

[simon.fuller@islington.gov.uk](mailto:simon.fuller@islington.gov.uk)

07892 700217

# ACL – An introduction

In 2023-2024 ACL worked with

- **1,789** individual residents by providing
- **3,830** enrolments on
- **431** courses

We prioritise residents who:

- are unemployed and/or on benefits;
- have low/no skills;
- have low level confidence;
- have language difficulties;
- have poor self-esteem;
- are socially isolated;
- have mental health needs;
- have learning disabilities or difficulties

## ACL – An introduction

- 77% of our enrolled learners are women.
- We delivered in 64 venues across Islington including Children's Centres, Schools, Community Centres, Libraries and Job Centres.
- All our courses are free to Islington Residents.

# What is Adult Community Learning?

- We're a part of Islington Council, all our staff work directly for the council although we do sometimes have sub-contractors delivering specialist courses for us.
- We're funded by the Greater London Authority, devolved from the Department of Education, in the same way as Further Education Colleges and we are inspected by Ofsted.
- In addition we get a small grant from the council that helps us support crèches for learners, smaller class sizes etc.

## ACL Offer

- Family Learning
- ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)
- English and Maths
- Digital Skills
- Vocational and Employability Skills
- Creative, Practical and Well-being
- Green Skills



# Family Learning

A “first contact” provision designed to ignite the spark to learn. Programmes may be delivered inter-generationally or as adults only.

Delivered in Children’s Centres, Schools, Libraries or Community venues.

- Family Language
- Family Kitchen
- Helping Children with Maths / English (KS1 or 2)
- Community Celebrations
- Annual Family Learning Festival
- ESOL with Toddlers



# ESOL

- Our English for Speakers of Other Languages programmes run in Libraries, Community Centres and Children's Centres.
- The majority of courses are face to face but a few run online to cater for learners who can't attend, they typically have young children.
- The focus is on developing language skills (reading, writing and speaking & listening) with accreditation available when learners are ready.



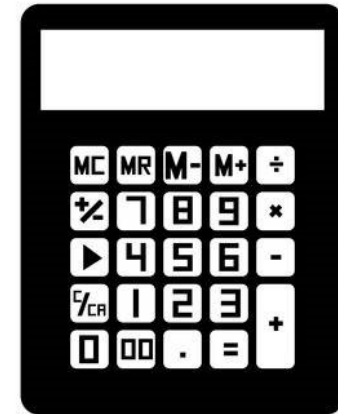
# ESOL

- Learners are assessed and put into classes at the correct level.
- We have classes from New to ESOL (literacy) to level one (5 levels).
- Progression is to the next level and then to classes at College for level one and two or to vocational and other ACL classes.
- Assessments on Mondays (in term times) 1pm at Central Library, Holloway Road.



## English and Maths

- Our English and Maths programmes run in Libraries and Community Centres.
- We offer programmes from E1 to L2 and accreditation (functional skills) is available when learners are ready.



## English and Maths

- Learners are assessed and put into classes at the correct level.
- Progression is to the next level and then to vocational or other college courses.
- Assessments on Mondays (in term times) 1pm at Central Library, Holloway Road.



# Digital Skills

A range of accredited and non-accredited programmes for beginners up to level 2 at Community Centres, Libraries and online.

For example:

- Essential Digital Skills
- Digital Skills for Beginners / Improvers
- Smartphone Savvy
- Word and Excel at Level One and Two

Assessments on Mondays  
(in term times) 1pm at  
Central Library, Holloway Rd

# Vocational and Employability Skills

Programmes to enhance resident's employability skills including:

- Working in Admin
- Childcare
- Boost Your Interview Skills
- Employment Support Drop-in
- Present yourself Effectively
- Confident Communicating



Assessments on Mondays (in term times)  
1pm at Central Library, Holloway Rd

## Creative, Practical and Wellbeing

This curriculum area aims to meet the needs of the community that are hard to reach and do not typically engage with our programmes.

We aim to support well-being and develop a love of learning.

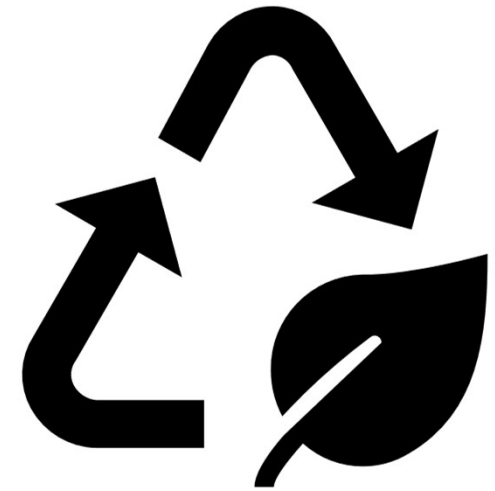
- DIY courses for women
- Sewing (accredited and community groups)
- Conversation Cafes
- Embroidery
- Men's Shed

Website: <https://adultlearning.islington.gov.uk/>

WhatsApp: 07734 777466

## Green Skills

- Energy-saving Workshops
- Cycle Maintenance
- Exploring Green Careers
- Support for Veganuary
- Climate Education for Families



Contact Lauren Davies 07971 613123

## Support for Learners

- We offer a dyslexia screening and assessment service.
- Learners that feel they need one to one support for reading and spelling can access sessions using a structured phonics system called That Reading Thing.
- Last year we supported 14 learners in this way.

# Enrichment Trips and Visits





# Enrichment Trips, Visits (and Parties!)



# Fashion, Textiles and Sewing



# Embroidery



Embroidery Applique

# The Women's Group at Elizabeth House "Face" Project using upcycled materials and displayed at Libraries



# Market Trading



Islington Adult Community Learning  
Introduction to Market Trading & Event Planning  
Summer 2023



# Men's Shed



# ESOL in the Garden with Octopus Community Network



## ACL Contacts

Simon Fuller [simon.fuller@islington.gov.uk](mailto:simon.fuller@islington.gov.uk)  
07892 700217

Aldo Zeolla [aldo.zeolla@islington.gov.uk](mailto:aldo.zeolla@islington.gov.uk)  
07813 548849

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