

Mid Course REPORT FOR CALNE AREA BOARD
APPLICATION ID 3181

16/08/19

CALNE WORDFEST

LEARN TO READ COURSE 18 YRS+

Reg Charity no 1179429

Calne Community Library/Hub

Calne Wordfest received approval in March 2019 to run a 20 week course for adults.

This course commenced at the end of June 2019 with Launch2learning delivering the course.

The course is operated with a continuous start date so that participants can join at any time.

As of 16/08 the course has been operating for 7 weeks.

The course started with an initial group of four adults. The students meet together 1 day per week with the Teacher and an Assistant. Further reading practice is provided by a reliable bank of volunteers. The initial location for the course was in Launch 2 Learning in William Street Calne but has now relocated to Calne Library /Hub as it is more convenient for participants. Library Staff have been very helpful with the group meeting in the Library/ Hub. There are now 3 regular 'readers' who are all very keen and they engage well with the Teacher and Assistant. A local social club has offered their club as a venue and this is currently under consideration as it may attract other people to the group.

There is one person who is keen to come along but is understandably very apprehensive so the Assistant will meet him before start time in a local coffee shop then if he feels confident she will walk with him to the Library and meet the others there. I include this information only to indicate how difficult some people will find it to start this type of course and to show that a lot of preparatory work is being undertaken with candidates before we can add them to our roll.

The course has been promoted well through local schools and nurseries adding the course details to their newsletters etc. Flyers have been posted throughout the town. The course has been well advertised in the Job Centre (including their local intranet systems). Job Centre staff advise us that this course is greatly needed in our area and that Job Centre staff know individuals who could benefit. J.C. Advisors need to work with individuals over time to encourage them to attend. The teacher and assistant are now targeting local employers on Porte Marsh estate with the focus on 'upskilling' which appears to be more acceptable than Learn 2 Read. The Tutor and Assistant will telephone employers and conduct a follow up visit when necessary.

The maximum number of students that the Teacher is able to accommodate is 6 because a great deal of the tuition is individually targeted.

Records of attendance are being kept.

Baseline assessments to monitor progress and gauge improvement are also maintained weekly.

Upon completion of the course more detailed monitoring information will be provided to the Calne Area Board.

I regret I am unable to attend the Calne Area Board meeting on the 10 September 2019 as I will be away but I understand Mari Wykes, Launch2 Learning will be attending and she will be able to answer any general questions.

Jennifer Dunthorne

Calne Wordfest Trustee