



Helping you find your way in the UK

Jobs, Education and Training

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JET Gets a New Home

JET said goodbye to their base in Cruddas Park this year as they moved to greener pastures on Grainger Park Road. With more space and a better location for our users, the move was welcomed by staff and clients alike.

MPs Visit JET

JET recently hosted a visit from Councillor Nick Forbes, the new Leader of the City Council. He also brought Jon Cruddas MP and Cllr Steve Reed, Leader of Lambeth Council. Both were in the region and Nick had asked us to host a visit to show them the work that we do. They were joined by Councillor Michael Johnson, the Deputy Cabinet Member for Skills, Business, and Enterprise, and local Ward members Councillor Ann Schofield and Councillor Dipu Ahad. They spoke to some of our clients and learned first hand how JET has been helping the community.

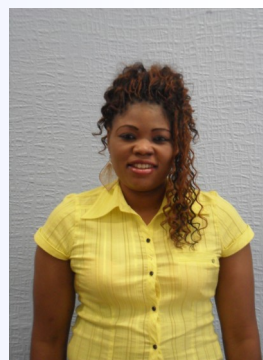


Councillor Forbes said 'The current economic climate makes finding a job difficult. This is especially true for people who have limited work experience in the UK or lack confidence with their English language skills. JET has a great track record of delivering successful job outcomes for this client group. I was impressed by the dedication and commitment of both the clients and the staff at JET and we all found the visit very informative'.



Jeanne's Success Story

Jeanne is from the DR of Congo and she came here as an asylum seeker in 2004. She was referred to JET from Victim Support in January 2011 and during her time with JET, she worked with two advisors, Paulina and Nasrin. These advisors helped Jeanne find work related to her qualifications in catering which she obtained from a college in Birmingham. They also helped with CV writing, mock interviews and building her confidence.



Thanks in part to JET, Jeanne is now working full time as a kitchen assistant at a care home. She loves the staff and the residents and is really happy to be making use of her qualifications and to be able to express herself through her love of cooking. Jeanne says "I will never forget all that JET has done for me".

Jeanne is one of the 50 people that JET helped into employment from May—August this year.



Volunteering Pays Off

Michael joined JET at the start of 2011 after meeting a JET advisor at the Millin Centre. He came to the UK as an Asylum seeker, a status which he held for over 8 years. During that time, Michael, having spent all of his adult life working, was very frustrated with not being able to gain employment over here or to enrol on training courses.

Michael was born in Trinidad and Tobago where he spent several years working in a family grocery shop before moving to New York in 1990 to try his luck there. He worked 3 different jobs during the next 19 years, one of which was a security officer in Brooklyn. In 2000 he returned home and resumed a career in security as an Estate Constable. Unfortunately Michael had to leave Trinidad once again to escape the conflict in his country.



Michael claimed asylum in the UK and has only recently received his refugee status.

Not wanting to waste any time, Paulina has worked closely with him over the past few months helping him look for work, building his self-confidence, developing his CV, holding mock interviews and taking him to meet employers.

So far Michael has found himself with a great volunteering opportunity at Your Homes Newcastle (YHN) as a concierge. He is very hopeful for the near future with the likely prospect of employment with YHN where he would be able to continue his career in security.

What else are we doing?

- This year JET has been running the Refugees into Teaching project in Tyne & Wear. It has been a great success with over 30 people participating in a variety of workshops and receiving IAG from our advisors. In addition we worked with a number of schools to provide 19 work placements across the Region and set-up 8 mentoring relationships with UK qualified teachers. Several Refugee Teachers also completed Teaching Assistant qualifications. So far one participant has been accepted on to a PGCE programme and we hope for more next year. We plan to continue to provide support in the next academic year through the links we have set-up with the schools and mentors.
- JET is about to roll out sector specific ESOL for Jobs training programmes, supported by sector specific work clubs this summer/autumn to help people find employment. These sectors will include Care, Customer Service, Professional Careers and Unskilled/Manual trades.
- We are also running a host of taster sessions to attract some new clients and draw people into the wonderful world of learning. Sessions include photography, fashion, web design and much more.
 - JET will also continue with delivery of our full IT programme and delivery of our motivational course, designed to boost confidence, with a new unit delivered by the PCT on stress management.

Stories of the World

This March, Edgar (JET) and Joan Patterson (Westgate College) took a group of students on a little learning adventure with “Stories of the World” – part of a major project of Tyne and Wear Museums designed to help promote a better understanding and appreciation of history and culture.



Students enjoyed a great variety of galleries and exhibitions which told fascinating stories of the city and its people. This was a great way of promoting cultural awareness, encouraging BME learners to integrate more fully with the surrounding communities.

The trip was very successful and was a really fun way for the students to learn more about their cultural environment so a big thank you to the staff at Tyne and Wear Museums and to the students for their enthusiasm.

JET Welcome New Staff

This year JET welcomed 2 new members — Amy Wheatman from Newcastle Futures and Joe Hookham from the Newcastle City Council’s ESOL Service. They’ve settled in well and are keen to help JET continue its valuable work in the community.

