



The Future Is Bright

TBG Learning's innovative course in painting and decorating allows students to get strokes ahead...

YOUNG PEOPLE ARE PAINTING THEIR WAY to a brighter future through TBG Learning's innovative course in painting and decorating. The course, which started in 2005, trains 16 to 18-year-olds for a career in construction. Students learn the tricks of the painting and decorating trade, including surface preparation, health and safety, and scaffolding.

The course is run four days a week over 30 weeks at the TBG centre in Brixton, South London. Students have the opportunity to do a work placement with a local employer and some secure employment in the process. Around 70 young people will complete the painting and decorating course this year.

Speaking to *Rehab News*, Abi Osho, Regional Manager of TBG Learning South London, said, "The young people are learning a trade where there are jobs emerging locally in South London. They are getting a recognised qualification that puts them in an excellent position to progress."

The course is taught by two industry experts who offer professional and practical training in the trade. Classes are held in specially-designed suites which include cubicles where painting techniques can be perfected. The facilities are a result of collaboration between TBG

Learning, the Construction Industry Training Board and the Lambeth Local Strategic Partnership ("Lambeth First") which is addressing training and employment issues for 14 to 19-year-olds.

While taking the foundation construction award accredited by the Construction Industry Training Board, students can claim a weekly allowance of up to £30.

The course is one of a range of "Entry to Employment" (e2e) options on offer to young people who have left school with few or no qualifications and are unemployed. More than half of the young people who completed e2e in 2007 progressed to further education, employment or training such as an apprenticeship programme.

TBG Learning's courses help to boost the skills and employability of disadvantaged social groups in the UK. All of the e2e programmes include classes in literacy, numeracy and IT and help young people to build their confidence and to develop their interests. ■

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Who to contact

For further information please contact:



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