



JUNE NEWSLETTER

www.micomputersolutions.co.uk

Welcome to our June newsletter!

In this newsletter, you will learn how to choose between and Skills Bootcamp and a longer vocational course, view a video about how Linda - one of our past learners - found a job as a Care Worker, new course dates and more!

Read below!

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Skills Bootcamp vs. a longer Vocational Course

Which one to choose?

Two of our most popular learning paths - Skills Bootcamp and longer Vocational Courses - can help you upskill and find a better career, but which of these is most suitable for you?

Both are excellent choices, but they work in different ways. Use the guidance below to help you decide.

1. The Skills Bootcamp: The "Fast Track"

A Skills Bootcamp is a short, intensive course (up to 16 weeks) and it is designed to get you into a job as quickly as possible.

- **Best for you if:** You already have your Basic Skills (English & Maths) and you want to start working in the Childcare or Health and Social Care sector

- **The Pace:** It is fast! You will learn a lot in a short time, so you need to be ready to study hard every week.
- **The Goal:** As we work directly with employers and their needs, this course focuses on one high-level skill.
- **The Big Plus:** You will get a guaranteed job interview at the end of the course and the potential to earn the London Living Wage or more if successful.

2. The Vocational Course: The "Steady Build"

A Vocational Course (like a Level 2 or 3 Diploma) usually takes longer (often 6 months to a year), but It gives you a broader and deeper understanding of an industry.

- **Best for you if:** You are new to a sector (like Teaching Assistant or Health and Social Care) and want to learn everything from the ground up.
- **The Pace:** It is steadier. You have more time to practice your skills and build your confidence.
- **The Goal:** It gives you a recognized qualification that is respected across the whole industry.
- **The Big Plus:** You gain a very strong foundation and often complete a work placement to get real-world experience.

So which one you believe is more suitable for you?

Still feeling unsure?

Don't you worry! Our team is here to talk and guide you on your learning journey. We will look at your current skills and your future goals to find the course that is perfect for you.

[Register Your Interest!](#)

Meet the Team -

Paul M^CDermott

Contract Delivery and Compliance Manager

We're honoured to have interviewed Paul, our Contract Delivery and Compliance Manager at MI, for this month's newsletter. Originally from Thurrock in Essex, Paul now lives in London and has worked in the Further Education industry for over 16 years.

Paul's impact in the industry has been tremendous, and in 2011, he was recognised for his work by being nominated as an Outstanding Project Officer for the ESF (European Social Fund) Awards, making it to the top 3 in the whole of London, and with the opportunity to attend a special presentation evening at the old City Hall by Tower Bridge.

Read more about Paul's career journey below.

Q1: Thank you, Paul, for doing this interview with us and sharing your story with our readers. Take us to the starting point of your journey and tell us how you got involved in the education sector.

P: I was unemployed and placed on a government-funded programme (New Deal) back in 2009, and was offered a work placement with the training provider in the Administration department. After one week's training, I was asked to cover the admin department whilst the Admin Officer was on leave for two weeks, which I did. Upon their return, they no longer required me in that department but decided to employ me as a Tutor. I haven't looked back since

Q2: That's incredible. Love how a perceivable bad situation brought you new opportunities,



Q6: And what do you find most challenging and how do you approach it?

P: When I come across an obstacle, especially when using Excel, I tend to use good old Google to find possible solutions. But never be afraid to ask your peers; other people

such as working at MI now. Speaking of which, how long have you worked for MI and how has your career path led you to this position?

P: For over two and a half years, I have been working at MI. Since 2009, I have gained vast experience and skills in different roles and positions within the Further Education Sector at several training providers, including Tutor, Project Officer, Administrator, Senior Administrator, MIS & Data Manager and now Contract Delivery and Compliance Manager.

Q3: And we're so happy to work alongside you, Paul. For those who are not aware, tell us how your work with contracts and compliance improves the day-to-day lives of our learners?

P: The work I do day-to-day is critical to making sure we receive the full funding that is required to support our learners. Without the funding, there would be no free courses; no opportunities through our Advanced Learner Loans; no additional learning support for the learners who require this and no Learner Support for those facing hardship.

Q4: I guess it's safe to say that you play an extremely crucial role that supports all our

may know a way to overcome the challenge.

Q7: I completely agree, not being scared to ask questions when we don't know something is what makes us grow. And talking about growth, what recent achievement or thing has made you proud or smile at work?

P: I am really proud of the 2025 Impact Report that I created last year. It shows exactly the great work that is done by everyone at MI, not just throughout the 2025 academic year but since the organisation was founded in 2004. An electronic version of the report can be found on our website's homepage. I was also extremely proud to be able to welcome Ayo Akande, the Assistant Director for Skills at the Greater London Authority (GLA), to our Brixton Centre in January, where he had the opportunity to meet with our learners and team and we could promote all the great things that MI does.

Q8: And how does MI change learners' lives or even improve their job prospects?

P: By identifying individual learners' barriers, needs and requirements, tailoring courses to overcome, support and meet these. This can be from supporting learners with very

learners and also the organisation. What is something you do that nobody sees, but makes everything run smoothly? And what does a typical day look like?

P: A large majority of the work that I do is unseen by many people, but I am here to help keep the wheels turning and the ship sailing steadily. Ensuring all contractual requirements are met and that we can offer support to as many people as possible, not just here in London but across wider communities. There is no typical day for this role; one moment could be working on commissioning for a new contract, the next auditing learner files, and another time walking around the building checking for Health and Safety issues, etc. I could be presenting at events to promote our courses/organisation and at the next moment drafting reports to present at various meetings, including foundation, vocational, Senior and Board. No two days are ever the same.

Q5: What do you enjoy most about your job, Paul?

P: I love the fact that no day is the same; there is a lot of variety in my work. The most rewarding part of my job is knowing that the work that I am doing is helping to transform lives and

basic English skills through our English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) courses to upskill (they may have been in a highly skilled job in another country but with the language barrier stopping them from gaining similar roles). We also work directly with employers to tailoring our curriculum and courses to meet their specific requirements, which means that learners are on courses which can have guaranteed job interviews at the end, giving a much better opportunity of gaining employment

Q9: Paul, we're almost at the end of our interview, but tell us what career advice you would give to a new learner or anyone reading this newsletter?

P: That you may not start in your dream job, but you can build towards it. A foot on the first rung of the career ladder is better than not being on the ladder at all. Make sure that you have a strong CV; we have a team here who can support you with this, so please do ask.

Q10: And our Employability team are fantastic. OK, Paul, I have one final question for you: If you could learn a new skill or subject tomorrow, what would it be and why?

P: To improve my handwriting, which is why I work with

that I get to give back, as I have previously been homeless, unemployed and needed help. databases and on computers!

Thank you so much, Paul, for telling us all about the complexities and necessities of your role at our organisation and, of course, for all you do to ensure our learners have access to courses and can actually change their lives.

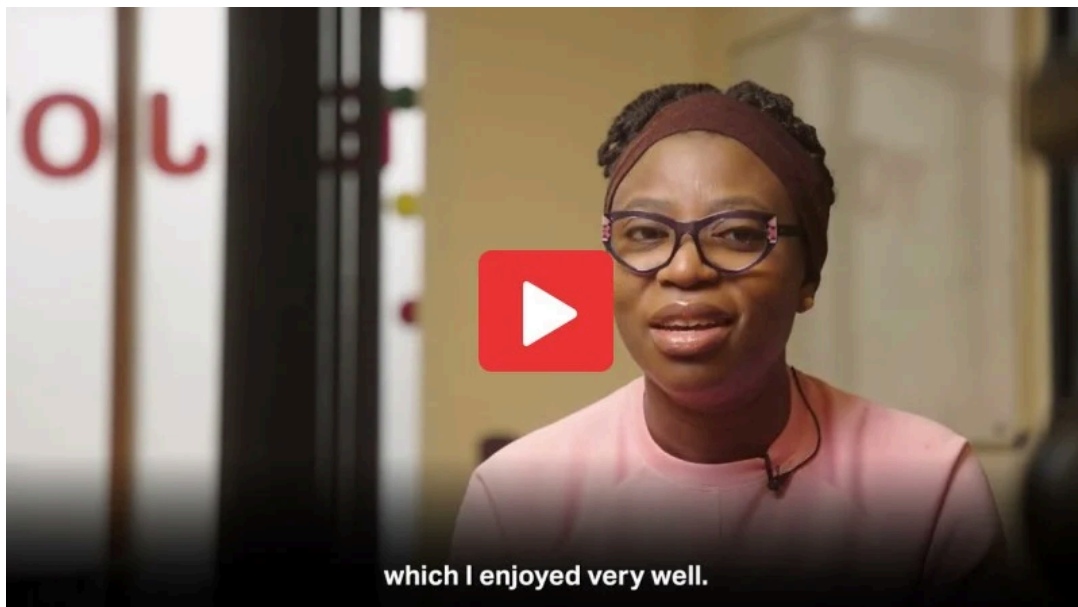
Your journey is truly inspiring and we're all very proud of how far you've come.

Health and Social Care Bootcamp Study Case

Linda Kouyate's success story into employment

Before completing our Skills Bootcamp Health and Social Care course, Linda was a stay-at-home mum. This is the story of how the programme gave Linda the confidence, experience and skills needed to secure a job as a Care Worker at Connifers Care.

Watch her story below.



Learn more about the Skills Bootcamp programmes we offer using the button below.

[Learn More!](#)

Upcoming Courses

Ready to transform your life?

Check the list of our upcoming courses and register below:

01
JUNE

BUSINESS IT FOR OFFICE
LEVEL 2

05
JUNE

VTCT LEVEL 3 NAIL
TECHNOLOGY

03
JUNE

GREEN SKILLS FOR ESOL

05
JUNE

FOCUS AWARD LEVEL 3
COMBINED BEAUTY
THERAPY TREATMENTS

04
JUNE

ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF
OTHER LANGUAGES ENTRY
2 - ENTRY 3

09
JUNE

ESSENTIAL DIGITAL SKILLS
ENTRY 3

05
JUNE

VTCT LEVEL 3 BARBERING

08
JULY

WELCOME TO ENGLISH (ESOL)
ENTRY 1 - ENTRY 2

[Enrol Now!](#)

Refer a Friend

And get a £30 bonus



If you have a friend that would benefit from doing a course with us, you can easily refer them using the form below.

As a reward, you will get a £30 voucher when they successfully complete a course with us.

[Referral Form](#)

June Diversity & Inclusion Calendar



World Environment Day 5 June

World Environment Day, established by the United Nations, is celebrated annually on June 5th. It provides an opportunity to focus global attention on pressing environmental challenges and encourages individuals and communities to take proactive steps towards environmental conservation. World Environment Day aims to inspire positive change and foster a sense of responsibility towards our natural surroundings.



<https://www.worldenvironmentday.global/>



Men's Health Week 15-21 June

The Men's Health Forum organises Men's Health Week each year. The week aims to raise awareness of men's health and to encourage all men to seek help to address any health concerns that they may be experiencing.

<https://www.menshealthforum.org.uk/mhw>



Healthy Eating Week 10-14 June

Healthy Eating Week is an annual event created by the British Nutrition Foundation (BNF). It's all about celebrating healthy living and encouraging people to make positive changes to their lifestyles and promoting healthy eating, drinking and physical activity.

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/event/healthy-eating-week-2026>



Refugee Week

Refugee Week 15-21 June

Established in the UK in 1998, Refugee Week takes place every year around World Refugee Day (20th June) and

has since grown into a global movement with over 2 million participants, across over 20 countries. Through an exciting programme of thousands of events, activities and media campaigns, Refugee Week brings together people from different backgrounds to connect beyond labels, and foster a deeper understanding of why people are displaced, and the challenges they face when seeking safety.

<https://refugeeweek.org/>



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