

Our
future.
It's in
our hands.

COMMIT TO THE SKILLS PLEDGE, COMMIT TO SUCCESS.

Case Study

Tubby Bears', a play centre for children in Derby, has made a public commitment to train their staff. Catering for up to 400 children a week, they have signed up to the Skills Pledge, to support the skills development of all its employees and to ensure that all staff are skilled, competent and able to make a full contribution to the success of the company.

"I saw an article in a magazine about the Train to Gain service and I contacted the Learning and Skills Council to find out more about it. I was put in contact with a Skills Broker who told me all about the Skills Pledge and how important it was to ensure all staff are trained to a minimum level. As a small company I was originally concerned about the costs of training, and I didn't think we'd be able to afford it - but it doesn't cost much at all with most of the funding provided by Train to Gain. Plus the training is very much on the job so the staff don't have to go to college."

Carol Presbury, Managing Director.



"As a small company I was originally concerned about the costs of training, but it doesn't cost much at all."

For more information about making the Skills Pledge happen in your business call **0800 015 55 45** or visit lsc.gov.uk/skillspledge



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Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service has made a public commitment to ensure their 900 staff are up to date with the skills and knowledge they need to do the best job they can for their local communities.

"By signing up to the Skills Pledge, we're declaring our commitment to our employees, ensuring they have the right skills and knowledge to make sure they can do the best job they can for the people that live, work and visit Leicestershire. Training is an integral part of our fire fighters' working day, ensuring they are fully up to speed with the latest specialist equipment and fully competent in their roles. Our support staff also need training to ensure they are fully able to support the Service in our core role of preventing fires, protecting people and property, and responding to emergencies."



Ian Scarrott, Assistant Chief Fire and Rescue Officer

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Lincolnshire Co-operative has led the way among Lincolnshire employers as one of the first organisations across the East Midlands to sign up to the Skills Pledge.

They are supporting 2,400 staff to achieve an NVQ Level 2, thanks to funding available via the Train to Gain Service. This includes 35 staff at their Bakery operation, Gadsby's of Southwell, who achieved an NVQ Level 2 in Performing Manufacturing Operations.

"We are committed to training our staff and have recently tapped into the LSC Train to Gain programme to help us fund some further training. Training is vital to running a good business. We aim to provide an excellent standard of service to our members and customers and build for the future by generating profits to develop our services. By developing the skills of our staff they are better equipped to help us to achieve our goals."

Heather Lee, Head of People & Performance



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A Northamptonshire firm that specialises in providing adhesives to help build some of the most demanding structures in the world, has made a public commitment to train all their staff. Rushden-based ITW Performance Polymers produce structural adhesives for a variety of industries including marine, transportation, automotive, engineering and construction. Now the firm, who employ 25 people at the Northamptonshire base, have signed up to the LSC's Skills Pledge, to publicly commit to supporting the skills development of all its employees.

"As a company we were really keen on giving our staff the opportunity to develop. When we heard about the Skills Pledge we thought it seemed like the ideal way of showing our commitment to our staff as well as giving us practical help by providing us with access to a Train to Gain Skills Broker, who could identify the training we needed and the courses available. Doing the courses will have real benefits for the company – increased performance, increased confidence levels of our staff, and increased staff retention."



Mike Scott, General Manager.

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More than 120 staff at a Nottinghamshire-based holiday resort are reaping the benefits of the company's commitment to the Skills Pledge. Center Parcs, whose holiday village and head office is based in Sherwood Forest, was one of the first companies in the East Midlands to commit to the Skills Pledge, and encourage and support all its employees to train to achieve at least an NVQ level 2 qualification. Since signing up to the Skills Pledge, the company has launched its new Academy programme, which gives all its employees the opportunity to undertake an NVQ or Apprenticeship programme.

"Center Parcs is recognised as an organisation committed to training - we have access to Train to Gain to support the development of our Academy NVQ programmes. We are always guest facing, and time to run training programmes is scarce, but it's essential for us to make sure there are opportunities and flexible training programmes to ensure we have well trained staff who can do their jobs well. Plus offering a wide range of training makes us more attractive to school leavers, graduates and established professionals."



Tracy Walker, Center Parcs Apprenticeships Manager

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