



Recruiter briefing paper 2

Learner voices

What learners say about the National Test:

'I never finished an exam in my life before. I used to write my name at the top of the paper and freeze. This test seemed easy – no big blank spaces needed to be filled in, just needed to find the right answer.'

'I enjoyed it, it wasn't like the sort of things they forced you to do at school.'

'Nobody forced us. I wanted to get a qualification to prove to myself and others that I had learnt something. It just felt like the next step. I wanted to see what I had learnt, and now I've moved on to GCSE English Literature. I am encouraging friends and my family to come here. My husband and my sister are coming along.'

'It broadens your horizons . . . gives you more scope . . . both the qualification and inside you . . . it's confidence-building.'

'We enjoyed doing the multiple-choice questions. Multiple-choice gives examples as to which you think it is . . . it's easier, not having to write whole paragraphs and things.'

'Done wonders for my confidence.'

'Made me re-think my life and raise my sights.'

'Raised my sights above ground level.'

'I now work on my mistakes – I don't just ignore them. I've sorted things out that have haunted me since school.'

'Doing the test? Doing the mocks took the fear out of it. The fact it was intensive meant you just keep going – no time to lose sleep over worrying.'

'Made me determined to progress.'

'It put me on a faster track for development.'

Ambitions/next steps included:

'I'll do the maths now.'

'I'll do a GCSE.'

'I'll do an NVQ in Care at Level 2.'

'I'll become an NVQ assessor.'

'I'll become a special needs teacher.'



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'I'll do something at Level 3. I've got the bug now.'

'I want to give something back - be a tutor or mentor.'

'We've all done Level 1 so we'll all do Level 2.'

'I'll do an Access course.'

'I'll do what it takes to get to university, anything as long as I'm learning.'

To their own surprise, many found themselves to be role models for others, and so became 'recruiters' or 'champions'.



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