

Gloucestershire County Council

# Multiply: Skills For Life

## Ubico

For many adults in the world of work, numeracy can be a huge barrier to progression and prevent individuals from taking that next step in their careers. At Prospect Training Services (PTS), we understand how difficult this can be, which is why, for the past 18 months, we have been working alongside Multiply to deliver numeracy courses for adults.

This allows learners to unlock skills that had long since been forgotten and embed these into everyday scenarios to give them the confidence to progress further in their roles and have confidence in their financial well-being. Ubico, a company delivering environmental services across Gloucestershire and West Oxfordshire, has been the latest company to attend this.

During our most recent programme, eight employees from Ubico's Cheltenham site were taught weekly for five weeks. During this, the learners were taught basic numeracy skills. These were demonstrated through work-based and home-life experiences.

All the learners completed the course, engaged fully, and achieved two or three grades higher than where they began in numeracy. They all visibly grew in confidence in their numeracy skills and ability to communicate openly within the group. Learners were even taking additional work home to complete with their children! "I was very impressed with both how the training was explained and delivered and was very pleased with the overall success rate that the students received," commented Gerard Delaney, Ubico's Training Manager. "I just wanted to say a big thank you [to PTS] for providing cost of living training to some of our employees. All were pleasantly surprised at how much their skills improved in such a short time."

"As a tutor, it was an amazing opportunity to go into a business to break down barriers faced by employees by creating a new outlook on education for adults on the course" said Zoe Price, PTS' HNS Coordinator.

Ewen Saunders, Commercial Director at PTS and the lead of the Multiply contract, also commented, "We are delighted with the partnership developed between ourselves at PTS and Ubico to bring funded training for staff that volunteered for additional numeracy skills. The Multiply funding aims to provide tailored support to those who need and would like additional skills, confidence and numeracy understanding. We have worked in partnership with Ubico to design a course that brings this to life in a work context which not only supports staff development but business efficiency and we feel our Maths that Works course has achieved".

## Contacts Us

To learn more about our Multiply programme, contact **Ewen Saunders** via **01452 886 888** or [ewens@trainandrecruit.com](mailto:ewens@trainandrecruit.com).





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## About PTS

At Prospect Training Services (PTS), we are all about supporting dreams and igniting potential. As an education provider enriched with over 25 years of training and development delivery, we understand that obtaining the skills for everyday life is mandatory. However, we understand that not everyone has had the fortune of being supported by these foundations. Hence, we vouch to help adults across Gloucestershire improve their lives through state-of-the-art eLearning programmes that will give them the confidence to carry out day-to-day activities. This is a part of our partnership with Gloucestershire County Council's Adult Education service, Multiply: Skills for Life.

We recognise that educating people around the essentials of living isn't as straightforward as 'shooting fish in a barrel', so to allow adult learners to fully comprehend the task afoot, we are developing nine bitesize eLearning modules that are completely open to all, so nobody is left behind. All of these are accessed through a unique, top-of-the-range DREAMS learner management system – fashioned by none other than Prospect Digital (an established part of the PTS group).












## Our eLearning

In each module, learners will be guided through slides full of cutting-edge designs with engaging, interactive content. This ensures that retention levels are kept high, and information is digested accordingly – after all, no one wants to be flooded with heaps of material; it's impossible to remember it all!

To further reinforce the 'Skills for Life', each unit is accompanied by a series of quiz questions that are sculpted around the topics raised, thus providing each person with a chance to retain the knowledge in a fun, gamified manner.

So, without further ado, the free Multiply eLearning modules cover:

-  Credit and Credit Scores
-  Expenses and Budgeting
-  Everyday Maths
-  Finances for New Parents
-  Gambling
-  Handling Debt
-  Introduction to Mortgages
-  Saving Money
-  Preparing Children to Become Financially Literate

## Contacts Us

If you would like to find out more about our association with Gloucestershire County Council in helping build brighter futures, please contact **Ewen Saunders** via **01452 886 888** or **[ewens@trainandrecruit.com](mailto:ewens@trainandrecruit.com)**

# Multiply Case Study

## Your Next Step



As part of our long-standing relationship with the Gloucestershire County Council, we have collaborated on numerous projects that have helped our community prepare for a better future. At this moment in time, we have been working with them on the Multiply: Skills for Life initiative to help individuals improve their numeracy skills.

As part of this provision, Prospect Training Services (PTS) is working collaboratively with many partners, including Leia Rosenberg, a social prescribing link worker for Hadwen Health Surgery and Quedgeley Primary Care Networks (PCN). Ewen Saunders, who is the Commercial Director at PTS, and the health surgery have worked in partnership to support patients in this area who would like support to develop their numeracy skills and confidence, as well as tools to help with their financial well-being.

This is through Your Next Step, a four-day course designed to help learners improve their numeracy and financial skills while applying this to everyday scenarios. This is designed for individuals over the age of 19 who live in Gloucestershire and don't have a Level 2 or GCSE grade C or 4 in maths.

Our very first cohort took place at Hadwen Health Surgery in January 2024 with seven individuals who live within the area. Learners started the programme with an introduction to the course, which was followed by lessons on improving their numeracy skills and how to apply this to real-life scenarios. They discussed topics such as finances, fractions, decimals and budgeting to help with the cost of living. On the third and fourth day, learners were taught how to improve their employability skills, and how to prepare and apply for employment. Our tutor, Sahindi De Silva, thoroughly enjoyed working with the learners, stating that "it went well, they were the best cohort I have taught so far; very lively and enthusiastic."

When they were asked how they felt the course went, all seven participants stated that they thoroughly enjoyed it and felt their confidence had vastly improved. They mentioned that they felt that their maths skills were significantly improved and that they found the course interactive and informative.

Many of the learners also commented on our tutor and how her teaching really helped the learners, making comments such as "I have learned more from Sahindi than any other teacher in my life" and "she is an excellent teacher with excellent communication skills."

Ewen commented "PTS are very proud to be working in partnership with Hadwen Surgery to offer this valuable and beneficial course that can build financial and numerical confidence, skills and knowledge of local residents. We are very thankful for the support of Hadwen Surgery in enabling us to run this course for their residents."

Our next session will take place on the 25th-28th of March. If you would learn to more about this programme or sign up, contact Ewen Saunders at [01452 886 888](tel:01452886888) or email: [ewens@trainandrecruit.com](mailto:ewens@trainandrecruit.com)



# Multiply

Unlock your potential, shape your future!