

Employment for All

aspirationsforlife.org

*Raising work aspirations for children
and young people with learning disabilities*



Getting A Life

Paradigm Conference

23rd June 2011

Ellen Atkinson and Nicola Gitsham

What is a good job ?

- Paid – same rate as anyone else doing that job
- Over 16 hours a week
- Builds on your strengths and interests
- Could be you own business



- **What do you think helps people with learning disabilities get paid jobs ?**



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What works ?

- Start at the beginning
- Help people see that getting a job is possible, a good thing and know what works
- Raise the aspirations and expectations of children and young people with learning disabilities with a particular focus on employment.



Aspirations for Life

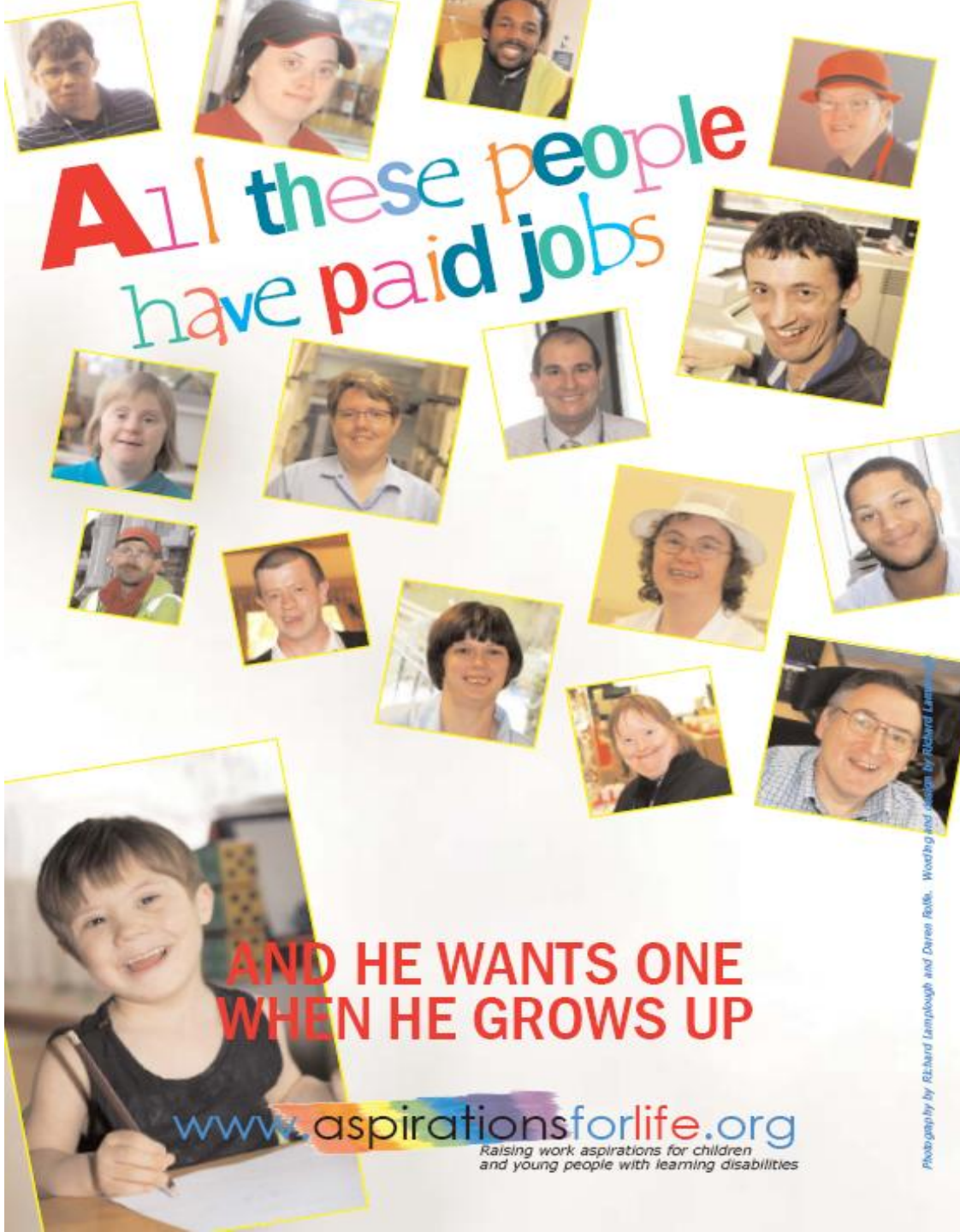
- Was funded by DfE for one year as part of Valuing Employment Now
- To raise aspirations and expectations about jobs and inclusion
- Challenging negative stereotypes



aspirationsforlife.org
Raising work aspirations for children
and young people with learning disabilities



- **Key outcomes for the campaign**
- Raised awareness around employment from a much earlier age
- Positive role models of people with learning disabilities in work and planning for work
- Partnership working to support shared learning and influence practice
- Increased joint working
- Toolkit of free resources - launched today!



A set of 16 Posters have been designed and distributed to all Local Authorities

They are also available to download for FREE from the website.

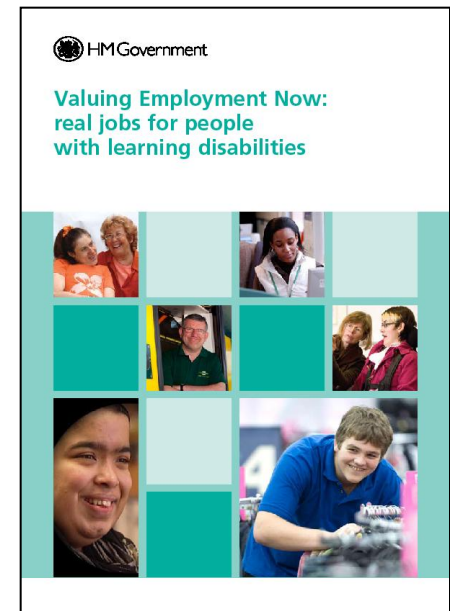
www.aspirationsforlife.org

Raising work aspirations for children and young people with learning disabilities

Photography by Richard Lamplough and Doreen Rolfe. Worded and design by Richard Lamplough

Getting a Life

- Set up in 2007 to find out why young people with learning disabilities don't get jobs and full lives when they leave school/college and tell Government what needs to change
- Was part of **Valuing Employment Now** strategy. The aim of this strategy is to get more people with learning disabilities into employment.

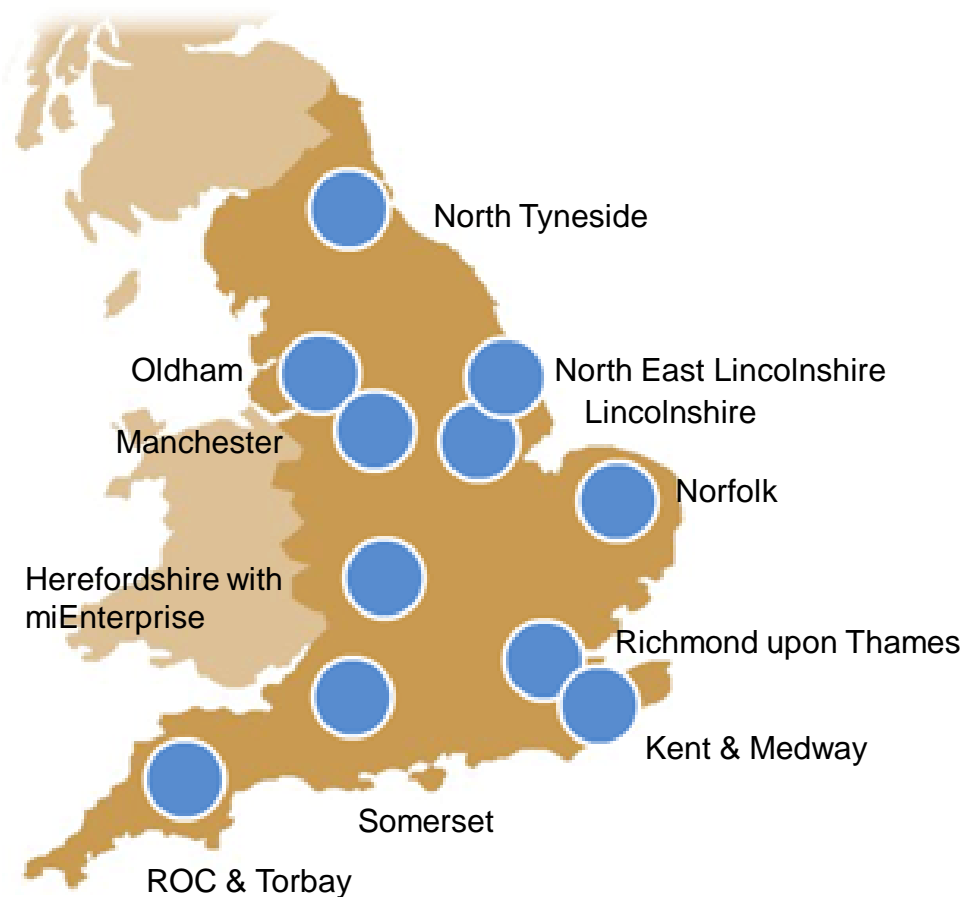


Making it happen

Demonstration Sites

We are working with twelve areas around the country. Each site is working with around 30 young people to:

- ✓ Test out ways of overcoming the problems that young people face
- ✓ Develop a pathway into employment that works
- ✓ Give young people the chance to get a job and to tell everyone their success stories

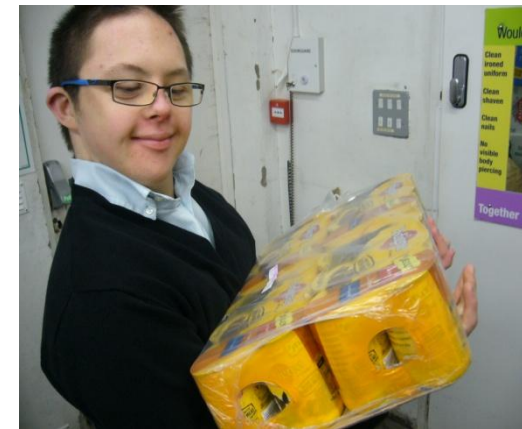


After Getting a Life



Getting A Life

- More young people had paid jobs
- More places were buying support that helps people get jobs
- More people believed people with learning disabilities can and should work
- Some government policy had changed to help people get jobs



What works ?

- Person centred transition planning with an employment focus from 14 (at the latest)
- Real work experience from 15 -16
- Saturday jobs and holiday jobs from 16
- Help to think about what you can do after 16 to help you get a job and full life



What works ?

- Learning things at school that will help you get a job and a full life
- Communication skills
- Person centred planning
- Travel training
- Money and time skills
- People skills



What works ?

- Post 16 options that help you get a job



- Good Supported Employment

- Project Search



- Support to set up your own business



- College with job coaches



- Apprenticeships



What works ?

- Help to think about how to use your personal budget and other money you are entitled to to get a job



What next ?



SEN and Disability Green Paper

- **Some of the ideas in the Green Paper include,**
- Testing out a new single multi-agency Education, Health and Care Plan that focuses on outcomes (including employment)
- More families and young people being offered the choice of a personal budget
- More help in schools to help young people plan for employment
- Better choices after 16 – things that really help young people go into employment, have independent living and be part of their community

Support and aspiration:
A new approach to special educational needs and disability

A consultation

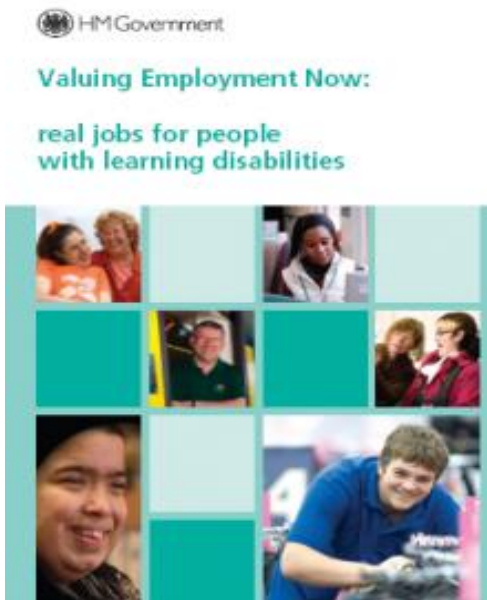
National Valuing Families Forum and National Forum



- Working with Job Centre Plus to see how they can get better at supporting people with learning disabilities
- They will report to the National Programme board
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- Regional Employment Summits



Valuing Employment Now Resource Hub



- Valuing Employment Now resources are moving to the BASE this week

Further Information

- **Valuing People Now Employment Resources:**
- www.valuingpeoplenow.dh.gov.uk/content/employability-hub
- **Getting a Life website:**
www.gettingalife.org.uk
- **Aspirations for Life:**
www.Aspirationsforlife.org
- **SEN Green Paper: Support and aspiration: A new approach to special educational needs and disability**
- www.education.gov.uk/consultations/