



Changing the world
of work for good

Changing Lives Through Learning

Julia Jones

TUC Policy Officer Learning &
Skills

Bringing union learning to your workplace

Questions

- How does learning change lives?
- What comes to mind when we say union learning?
- Do you know of any learning needs in your workplace that members might have?
- How can learning build stronger unions?
- Are you a ULR or would you be interested in becoming a ULR?

A man and a woman, both wearing high-visibility yellow safety jackets, are standing on a construction site. The man, on the left, is smiling and looking towards the woman. The woman, on the right, is also smiling and holding a clipboard. They appear to be in a collaborative work environment. The background shows a building under construction with a steel frame.

Ivor Riddell
ULR RMT

Ivor Riddell RMT ULR

Ivor is an experienced ULR who is going to talk to us about his experience of being a ULR

- What does the role of a ULR involve?
- What issues and barriers has he had to overcome
- What age groups he has worked with
- Good news
- Q&A

Connecting union reps with young people learning at work

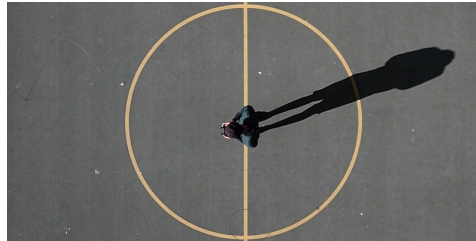


Who are we?

Bill Esmond
Bally Kaur
Liz Atkins

Institute of Education
University of Derby

Researchers in
technical and
vocational education
and training



Young people are invited to learn at work more than ever, through apprenticeships, work placements (Wolf Report 2011; Richard 2012; Sainsbury 2016)

But on employers' terms. Is there a role for TU reps?

Background



Report of the
Independent
Panel on
Technical
Education

April 2016

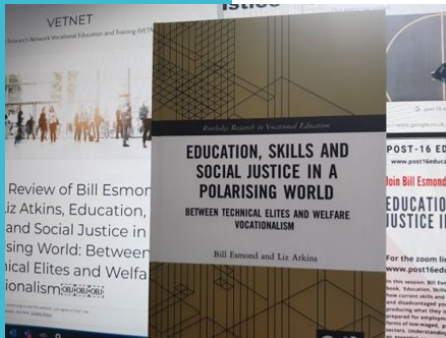
- Government policies for post-16 education since 2010 focus on apprenticeships and 'technical education'
- Terminology recalls a time when TUs were actively involved in education and training of young people (especially after Industrial Training Act 1964)
- But now substantial differences:
 - Specialist opportunities available in a few high-skill, male-dominated fields
 - Most areas preparing for lower-ranked occupations, and creative fields (Esmond 2018, Esmond & Atkins 2022)
- Evidence shows current policies help or prepare students to work, not how to learn at work (Newton et al. 2018)

We ask: is there a role for union reps?

Do we - or can we - move beyond training as the right of employers or the work of HR departments?

Can we change acquiring 'the skills employers want' to learning as part of a skilled work group or community?

Would you tell us more about your experiences and your ideas to improve young people's learning in the workplace?



Questions

- Does the area you organise include young people in training (e.g., apprentices or students on work placements)?
- Do you have any current role in their induction or training activities?
- Do you think unions should have a role in working with young people?
- How do you think such a role could be strengthened?



Chris Segal Community Trade Union

Is going to talk about the offer of learning Community has for its members



Chris Segal

Community Trade Union

WEA - <https://www.wea.org.uk/CTUsupport>

In Your Community - <https://community-tu.org/how-we-help/in-your-community/>



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Learning Events

TUC

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Upcoming Learning Events

Workers Education Association (WEA) online event

The Trade Unions Digital Branch of the WEA will be launched on October 19th at 18:30

Learning Webinars

TUC in person event supporting older workers to prosper in the workplace

15th November full day

All events are listed on the [unionlearn](https://www.unionlearn.org.uk) website



Trade Union Education



Trade Union Education

- ULR training
- Reps training
- Resources
- E notes
- Webinars

Unionlearn National & Regional Contacts

National unionlearn

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The logo for TUC (Transporters' Union of Canada) features the letters 'TUC' in a bold, sans-serif font. Each letter is white with a light blue gradient and contains a white arrow pointing in a specific direction: the 'T' has an arrow pointing up, the 'U' has an arrow pointing down, and the 'C' has an arrow pointing right.

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