



unionlearn

from the TUC

Autumn Festival of Learning Briefing

Unionlearn will be running an [Autumn Festival of Learning](#) from mid-September to the end of November 2020. With the aim of supporting and motivating Union Learning Reps and inspiring learning throughout the months ahead.

The festival will feature:

- Regional Supporting Learners events
- Campaign weeks covering core learning issues
- Webinars on a range of learning topics
- Create your own future webinar and briefing sessions, making use of the new online tool
- Interactive virtual learning sessions

Skills and Recovery will be a key theme for the festival as many people need support at this challenging time to help get a job, change roles or simply get ahead with their careers. Learning and skills development will play a vital part in the road to recovery.

The Unionlearn Autumn Festival of Learning will showcase the wide range of resources and publications available from unionlearn and partners. New case studies will be produced highlighting union projects, learning support and activities along with a range of new blogs from unionlearn staff, union colleagues, partner organisations and others we work with.

The festival will bring opportunities to learn new skills, get updated on key topic areas and to network and interact with others. All of the sessions will be completely free to attend and there will be something for everyone.

Union learning continues to make a huge difference in the workplace and beyond and the Unionlearn Autumn Festival of Learning will help show the value unionlearn brings in providing much needed support to unions, reps and learners.

Festival Launch

To launch the festival there will be a news story, social media posts and a Skills and Recovery webinar entitled 'Build, back better', on Thursday 17th September with Kevin Rowan, Kate Bell and Ian Borkett.

The day will be a great opportunity to promote all the upcoming sessions planned for the following months and for unions to share activities they have planned throughout the autumn.

Themed Campaign Weeks

The Festival of Learning will be broken into campaign weeks, some unionlearn campaigns and others tying in with national campaign run by partners. The timetable for campaign weeks is below.

Week	Dates	Campaign theme
Launch	17 / 18 Sept	
1	21 – 25 Sept	Unionlearn – Supporting Learners Week
2	28 Sept – 2 Oct	Unionlearn – Supporting Midlife Development Week
3	5 – 9 Oct	Learning at Work Week
4	12 – 16 Oct	Unionlearn – Maths Workout Week
5	19 – 23 Oct	Get Online Week
6	26 – 30 Oct	
7	2 – 6 Nov	Lifelong Working Week
8	9 – 13 Nov	Unionlearn – Green Skills and Environmental Awareness Week
9	16 – 20 Nov	Unionlearn – Younger Workers Week
10	23 – 27 Nov	Unionlearn – Skills and Recovery Week

Regional Supporting Learners Events

There will be six Supporting Learners sessions run online in September and October. These two hour sessions will give an update from unionlearn, a regional update from the TUC Regional Secretary and a short session from a National Careers Service or another designated speaker for that region. It will be an opportunity for ULRs to network with others in their region, with online breakout sessions.

Date	Time	TUC Region
21 Sept	14.00 – 16.00	Yorkshire and the Humber
23 Sept	10.00 – 12.00	North West
29 Sept	10.00 – 12.00	Midlands
13 Oct	10.00 – 12.00	Northern
14 Oct	10.00 – 12.00	London, Eastern and South East
20 Oct	10.00 – 12.00	South West

Webinars

Unionlearn has been running a series of successful webinars as part of the Learning at Home campaign and are keen to run more throughout the autumn. The webinars are a chance to introduce topic areas and promote resources. Each webinar is recorded so can be watched or re-watched at a later date. Webinars will be run on key areas of unionlearn's work such as mental health, digital skills and apprenticeships.

Webinars dates are being added to all the time, but currently include

Date	Webinar topic (titles to be confirmed)
17 September, 11am	Build Back Better - Skills and Recovery
8 October, 11am	Empowering Dyslexic Learners
9 October, 11am	Mental Health/Resilience
22 October, 11am	Digital skills and work
6 November, 11am	Create Your Own Future
12 November, 11am	Mentoring apprentices
26 November, 11am	Higher Learning

Create your own future briefing sessions

Unionlearn, in partnership with Saffron Interactive are developing a programme of support that will help to secure futures through identifying the transferable skills learners have and motivating workers to get new skills and to match them to new job opportunities. The programme will have a positive impact on many working people's lives by helping them to map out their future career pathways.

A Create your own future webinar will take place at the beginning of November to outline the outcomes from the project and introduce the new online tool. Six briefing sessions will also take place. These will be focused sessions providing information, a demonstration of the tool and support as to how to best cascade the work of the project to learners.

Date	
11 November, 10.30 – 11.30	Create your own future session
11 November, 14.00 – 15.00	Create your own future session
18 November, 10.30 – 11.30	Create your own future session
18 November, 14.00 – 15.00	Create your own future session
25 November, 10.30 – 11.30	Create your own future session
25 November, 14.00 – 15.00	Create your own future session

Interactive Learning Workshops

A number of interactive learning sessions will take place in the autumn, many will be part of the skills and recovery project work. These sessions will be an opportunity for smaller groups to find out about topics in more detail, interact with others and ask questions. These sessions will be open to members from all unions but there is scope for union specific sessions and regional sessions too if required. Planned sessions include Get Started: First steps to university, Let's talk about maths, Creating a winning CV, Job and interview skills and many more still to be announced.

Unionlearn Annual Conference

A highlight of the union learning calendar is the Unionlearn Annual Conference. The Unionlearn Annual Conference will take place on the 3rd November 2020.

This year the event will take place online and will feature a number of key speakers, topical discussions, ULR award winners, workshops and much more. A key theme for the conference will be Skills and Recovery. It will be a chance to celebrate our work over the past year as well as looking forward to the year ahead.

Share your story with us

Throughout the Unionlearn Autumn Festival of Learning we will be posting up new case studies and promoting the events and activities that unions and partners have been doing to support workplace learners.

We would love to hear from you about if you have a story to share or an event to promote that ties into the festival or any of its themed week. Please drop Keith Hatch a line with your stories and ideas.

Visit the Festival of Learning page on the unionlearn website regularly to keep up to date:

<https://www.unionlearn.org.uk/autumn-festival-learning-2020>

All of the Unionlearn Autumn Festival of Learning events can be booked via the unionlearn events page: <https://www.unionlearn.org.uk/events>