The London
Adult Skills Summit

The value of adult learning in London

1. Following the **London Adult Skills Summit** on 2 February 2026, we, the undersigned representatives of adult learning provision in London, collectively state our commitment to re-setting the status of adult learning's vital role in a healthy society and strong economy.

2. We call for:

    - A co-ordinated approach to recognising and communicating the value of adult learning in all its forms.

    - Skills England, the Department for Work and Pensions, the Treasury and other policy makers to review the way that adult education is perceived, promoted, valued and funded.

    - Explicitly set out roles of the state, individuals and employers in a system that is well understood by all.

3. We are firmly committed to supporting Londoners to benefit from adult learning for their economic advantage, contribution to the workplace, physical and mental health. Together, we uphold the values of inclusion, aspiration and wellbeing in the delivery of adult education and skills. We recognise the invaluable impact of adult learning on community cohesion against the current backdrop of division.

4. We will work with the DWP and GLA to collate and report upon quantifiable data that, together with the learner voice, illustrates the impact of adult learning, recognising that the impact extends beyond job outcomes. We agree that a change in approach is required to track students throughout their learning journey.

5. We will illustrate that adult learning funding must not be limited to the Lifelong Learning Entitlement, personal funding and employer contributions. The Government must recognise its obligation to adequately fund those furthest from the labour market. We ask the Government to value adult learning as it does school-age education and fund on an equitable basis so that we can invest in students and staff.

6. We believe that the Government and policy stakeholders must trust experienced adult learning providers. We understand our communities. We know how best to maximise resources with positive outcomes for individuals, employers, society and the economy.

7. Working together, with a collective and unifying plan, we can make a difference to the city we serve.

February 2026