

## **Skills for Life: Pathfinder**

Treloar's was one of 25 organisations to take part in the national Pathfinder Project taking a Whole Organisational Approach to Skills for Life. The aim was to explore how best to develop a holistic approach to improving literacy, communication and numeracy skills (LCN).

Treloar's was chosen because we are a specialist college for young people with physical disabilities – so in addition to standard curriculum goals – Treloar students have also been focusing on personal development and independence goals for many years.

From the start the whole organisational approach was taken to heart and all departments from Human Resources to Therapists and Governors were involved.

Treloar's is working towards not only having literacy, communication and numeracy skills development embedded into all the students' academic courses, but to also focus on LCN within independence targets in their residential and community living activities.

The skills of the staff are not being neglected either. A framework is being established whereby staff can identify and be signposted to literacy and numeracy support so they can progress their careers. Already some staff are more confident in achieving their NVQs or embarking on other professional courses.

Organisations that have helped us are KPMG, the Essential Skills Support Unit (ESSU, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight) and the Learning Skills Network.

If you would like to know more about how we have begun to implement Skills for Life and the lessons we have learned on the way, please follow the link to our dissemination video.