



STUDENT CAMPAIGN FOR ADULT EDUCATION IN LONDON

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‘Cuts to funding for adult education mean loss of opportunity for those on low incomes’ says Stephen Green, Chair of SCAEL, the Student Campaign for Adult Education in London

Students from four London colleges that specialise in adult education today launched a campaign to persuade the government to think again about the unintended consequences of its policy decisions

City Lit, Morley College, the Mary Ward Centre and the Working Men’s College are Specialist Designated Institutions (SDIs) that provide education for personal development, civil and social engagement, pleasure and interest for adults. These courses are being hit by the emphasis on the skills agenda and funding younger learners.

The consequences are loss of teaching expertise and support structure, narrowing of the curriculum, and narrowing of participation.

Course fees are likely to continue rising by over 10% each year until 2010. This has most effect on those on low incomes and could result in their being excluded from adult education.

‘Our Colleges are places where people of all backgrounds, races, social class and abilities mix, learn together and share their experiences, cultures and values’, said Stephen. ‘We must persuade the government to strike a fairer balance between skills training for the young and non-vocational Adult Education.’

Ends

Notes:

Information about the campaign and background material can be found on the SCAEL website at www.scael.org.uk

Contact: Stephen Green SteveGreenSRG@aol.com 07973 885 006